

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 202

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 25, 2010

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Should public school
students in the CNMI have
school uniforms?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

INSIDE



New Icon?
The Empire State Building is getting some stiff competition.

NATION...Page 15



Hostage Drama
A bloody denouement to a 12-hour drama in the heart of Manila rattles a country.

ASIA...Page 16



Miss Universe
A 22-year-old Mexico woman wins the Miss Universe pageant Monday night.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

Kilili prods White House on delay in DHS regulations. **PAGE 3**
Fund trustees grill auditor on findings; reports recalled. **PAGE 5**

Saipan casino bill passes House

House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), foreground, raises his hand to get the attention of Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) during a discussion and debate yesterday afternoon on Tenorio's controversial bill legalizing casino operation on Saipan. The House passed the bill on a 10-6 vote with three abstentions.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After debating for two hours, the House of Representatives passed late afternoon yesterday a contentious bill legalizing casino operation on Saipan, just two years after voters rejected a similar initiative.

See **SAPAN** on Page 4

Despite slight growth, all grade levels fail to meet SAT-10 target

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Results of the Stanford Achievement Test-10 conducted in all public schools last school year showed a slight growth in four levels; however, no grade levels met the Public School System's 50 percent target.

The latest issue of the PSS newsletter Students First released Friday indicated that in the past seven school years, SAT-10 results were increasing at a rate of 5 percent across grade levels each school year.

Last school year, PSS set a 50-percent

See **DESPITE** on Page 4

5 govt employees face criminal charges

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has filed separate criminal cases against five government employees in the wake of investigations by the Office of Public

Auditor that uncovered time sheets being falsified, deposit and trust money being stolen, and even a Public School System's

laptop landing at a pawnshop.

Criselda C. Aldan, a PSS employee; Maureen G. Sebangiol, an

- PSS laptop lands at pawnshop;
- Time sheets allegedly falsified;
- Cash deposits, trust money stolen

See **5 GOVT** on Page 4

HOW THEY VOTED

How House lawmakers voted on
Saipan casino bill, House Bill 17-55, HS1

YES

NO

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan)

Floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan)

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan)

Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan)

Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogunoro (Cov-Saipan)

Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan)

Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan)

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan)

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan)

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan)

Minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan)

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan)

Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan)

Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan)

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan)

ABSTAIN

Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota)

Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan)

Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian)

ABSENT

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan)

SOURCE: SAIPAN TRIBUNE TALLY



VALUE PLANS TO FIT ANY BUDGET
UNLIMITED local SMS
UNLIMITED Nights and Weekends

AS LOW AS
\$25*/month

iCONNECT
www.iconnectsaipan.com
GUAM/SAIPAN OFFICE 888.8888

*Some conditions apply. See print ad for details.

Local

Judge issues written order in Guerrero's DUI case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four days after finding businessman Juan Pan T. Guerrero guilty of drunk driving, Superior

Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued a written order on Monday, relating in meticulous detail her finding of facts that led to her conclusion.

Manglona said that, based on the evidence and the arguments of counsel, Guerrero was found guilty of speeding (failure to stop within assured clear distance ahead), driving under the influence of alcohol, and refusal to submit to a breath test.

Guerrero, however, was not found guilty of reckless driving.

He was supposed to be sentenced last Monday but this was reset to Sept. 3, 2010, after he replaced his lawyer, Joey Patrick San Nicolas, with Steven Pixley

and asked the judge for more time to study their options.

In the order she issued Monday and made available to the media on Tuesday, Manglona said her full findings of fact are as follows:

On the night of March 4, 2010, Guerrero was driving a car that hit another vehicle driven by Chester Cuento at the northbound lane of Middle Road in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Prior to the crash, Cuento had exited the driveway between Shell Highway Express gas station and First Hawaiian Bank and headed north on the outer lane toward Garapan.

Cuento then noticed a stopped

vehicle on the inner lane some distance in front of him with its hazard lights blinking. Thinking that the car was yielding to a pedestrian, Cuento came to a stop next to the stopped pickup truck and turned on his hazard lights.

That was when Guerrero's car hit him from behind.

It was then discovered that the stopped car on the inner lane was actually stalled and not yielding to a pedestrian.

Police testimony

Police officer Maverick Saures, who interviewed Guerrero at the scene, observed a strong odor of alcohol from Guerrero's exhaled breath, slurred speech, and bloodshot eyes.

When Saures asked if he had been drinking, Guerrero said no but then admitted to drinking a glass of wine. Later, he admitted to drinking two glasses of wine.

Saures then arrested Guerrero. He did not administer a field sobriety test on Guerrero at the scene because of the poor lighting and the unleveled ground.

Saures also saw Guerrero chewing what appeared to be a mint gum, but he could still smell the strong odor of alcohol on him.

Police officer Nam Koon Kwon, who received special training in traffic crash investigations at the University of Florida, also interviewed Guerrero at the scene.

Guerrero explained to Kwon how the crash happened, saying a car from the inner lane switched in front of him, and he stepped on his brakes from about 200 feet away. His car skidded and hit the sedan.

Kwon, however, couldn't find any skid marks. Guerrero explained that maybe it's because his vehicle is equipped

with an anti-lock braking system, or ABS.

Based on his training, Kwon knew that vehicles without ABS leave two, straight skid marks. Vehicles with ABS leave broken skid marks, also known as "skip skid" marks.

Kwon didn't find either mark.

Kwon also looked for stone from the asphalt that will embed on a tire after a screeching stop. He didn't find any on Guerrero's tires, even though the pavement was dry.

Kwon also interviewed Cuento. Kwon concluded that the physical evidence supported Cuento's version. Kwon also detected a strong odor of alcohol from Guerrero.

At the Department of Public Safety Central Office in Susupe, Saures asked Guerrero to undergo a field sobriety test but he refused.

While in the room, Guerrero's attorney arrived. After consulting with his lawyer, Guerrero decided to exercise his right to refuse to submit to a breath test, and to refuse to answer any further questions from the officers.

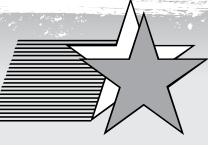
Saures concluded that the effects of alcohol on Guerrero was obvious (but not extreme), and his ability to drive was impaired (but not greatly impaired).

Defense's testimony

Guerrero had testified that on that day, he had just finished jogging and had gone to Oleai Bar & Grill where he drank a lot of water and ate some barbecue. He also had a glass of wine that he drank with ice. He didn't finish another glass of wine.

He said the smoke from cigarettes caused by three chain-smoking friends irritated his

See JUDGE on Page 3

MUFFLER REPAIR
233-7827
 **SERVISTAR®**
Motorsports

BACK 2 SCHOOL

PHONE SPECIALS

SONY ERICSSON W395 "HELLO KITTY" PHONE
• 2 MP CAMERA
• BLUETOOTH
• MP3 PLAYER **\$99***

SONY ERICSSON Z750I
• 2 MP CAMERA
• WALKMAN PLAYER
• BLUETOOTH
• SPEAKER PHONE **\$99***

SONY ERICSSON T707A
• 3.2 MP CAMERA • BLUETOOTH • VIDEO RECORDER, VIDEO CALLING

SONY ERICSSON W508
• 3.15 MP CAMERA
• VIDEO CALLING
• BLUETOOTH **\$154***

SONY ERICSSON T707A
• 3.2 MP CAMERA • BLUETOOTH • VIDEO RECORDER, VIDEO CALLING **\$154***

Continental Airlines OnePass
Join Today 
Receive 2500 Continental OnePass® Bonus Miles on New Account Activations**
*Conditions apply, please see website for details.

docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, MITA Travel Garapan

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN
PIC Palooza 2010
3rd Annual Party
August 28th Charley's
Doors Open at 7 PM
Must be 21 or over
Must wear Caribbean Luau attire
\$25 per person
(includes beer, wine, soft drinks and appetizers)
Tickets are available at the PIC Concierge
Call 237-5170
All proceeds go towards the fight against cancer.

Kilili prods White House on delay in DHS regulations

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said he is disappointed that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security was not able to meet its self-imposed July deadline to issue the transitional investor regulations for the CNMI.

Sablan, who will be on Saipan until the end of the month, said there is no word from DHS yet whether it will be able to release its transitional worker regulations in September.

"I'm truly frustrated and truly disappointed. We're still poking DHS. I'm not very happy that this thing is taking so long. We are reaching out to our contacts in the White House," he said in an interview.

Sablan said his office has yet to know where the regulations are being held up at this time, whether at DHS or some other agencies under the White House like the Office of Management

and Budget.

Foreign workers, employers, investors, businesses and the CNMI government are also frustrated over the delay in the release of the regulations.

For many, every single day that the regulations are not re-

leased to guidethem means another day that investors can't i n v e s t , businesses can't expand or hire workers, and foreign workers can't decide whether to stay or leave.

"All of these people are being left in limbo by DHS. This is not fair, it's bad for our economy, and It's holding people's lives hostage. The delay in the issuance of the regulations is unacceptable," Sablan said in a separate statement.

The interim final regulations were released before the federal

government took over CNMI immigration on Nov. 28, 2009 but a judge handling Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's lawsuit against the U.S. government over federalization prevented the rules from going into effect pending the outcome of the lawsuit.

Sablan said his office has not only been asking DHS, but has also started reaching out to the White House, to find out the release dates or the reasons for the delay in the release of the regulations governing foreign investors/foreign students and foreign workers, and the final regulations on the Guam-CNMI joint visa waiver program.

"I'm impressing upon these officials that it [delay in release of regulations] is holding up everybody back," he said.

Sablan said it is "unacceptable" that DHS is not saying anything about the delay.

He also said that on the ground, DHS officials have been helpful with case-by-case, band-aid solutions to problems that arise because of the lack of regulations.

"But the higher-ups at the department don't seem to understand that we need something solid that everyone can work with. Now that DHS has missed its self-imposed schedule of July for issuance of the invest-

tor regulations, I intend to raise the issue of the regulations with the White House itself, when I return to Washington in September. I also do not want the transitional workers regulations,

which are supposed to come out in September, also pushed back for more months," he said.

He added that "a little cooperation from our own government won't hurt either."



Sablan

Kevin's Department Store

- Bed, Sofa, Dining Set, Cabinet, Drawer and more Furniture
- Silk Flowers for Wholesale orders & Personal Designs available
- Customized Curtain, Sofa, Satin, Bamboo or Aluminum Drapes and any size Rugs
- Any sizes with 1", 2" & 4" thickness Foam and Mattress
- We also do Sofa Upholstery & Buy Used Sofa (in cash)
- Any Size Commercial Type Blue Roofing Tin, G.I. Pipe, & Ceramic Tiles

For Rent - 4 Bedroom Houses

Come visit our store to see more of our items on display and sample!
Located beside Post Office in Chalan Kanoa or
Call us now at 234-8866/ 287-8866

SALE
On Selected Items

It's Toyota Time!

It's time for your new Toyota at 2.99% APR*

Smooth and Capable!

4RUNNER

- Driver & front passenger front seat-mounted side airbags!
- 7 Passenger seating!
- Available backup camera and monitor!
- Available in 4-cylinder!

Follow the Leader!

CAMRY ▪ 169 HP engine! ▪ Front and rear side curtain airbags! ▪ Vehicle Stability Control! ▪ Available Bluetooth and power package!

HIGHLANDER

- 4 cylinder engine with Hill Start Assist Control (HAC)!!
- Comfortable seating for 7 Passengers!
- Fuel efficient, Cruise Control, Remote keyless entry!
- Driver and front passenger Advanced Airbag System!

MICROL CORPORATION

Corner Beach Road and Chalan Mnsr. Guerrero in San Jose
Telephone: 234-5911 | Fax: 234-6514 | www.microlsaipan.com

TOYOTA

Start the year off right with a pair of **\$77** eyeglasses.

Lot's of kid's frames to choose from.

Lens & Frames included □
One-year warranty □
Selected Brands □
Lightweight lenses □
\$127.00 for Progressive □
"no-line" bifocals

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome

235-9090

Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

Farmers, ranchers' meeting today in Kagman

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Municipal Council and the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service is inviting all farmers, ranchers, and all other agricultural producers in the CNMI to attend a meeting to discuss a program that can benefit them.

Council chair Ramon B. Ca-

macho and NMC-CREES agriculture specialist Isidoro T. Cabrera said the meeting will be held at 6pm tonight at the Kagman Community Center.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Authorized by the Food, Con-

servation, and Energy Act of 2008, the program aims to provide aid to farmers and ranchers in remote areas by reimbursing them for a portion of the cost they incur to produce or market their product.

Eligible agricultural commodities include horticulture, aquaculture, and floriculture products like food, feed, fiber, livestock and insects.

The program, launched on

Aug. 3, will assist farmers and ranchers from Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau, Virgin Islands, and the CNMI.

Enrollment period for the program will end on Sept. 10.

According to Cabrera, this will be the first time that the program is implemented in the CNMI.

Any farmer or rancher that produces at least \$1,000 per year can qualify for the program, which was appropriated \$2.6 million for FY2010, he said.

Camacho said a representative from the Guam Farm Service Agency office will fly to Saipan to discuss the program further with CNMI farmers and ranchers.

"This is an opportunity that will benefit [farmers and ranchers]. I

want them to be guided properly. It's very important for them to avail this program," he said.

Cabrera said the program is open to both members and non-members of the Sabalu Farmers Market.

Both Cabrera and Camacho urged all farmers in the CNMI to avail of this great opportunity.

For more information, call the Saipan Municipal Council at 664-2700.

SAIPAN

From Page 1

Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 17-55, House Substitute 1 passed on a 10-6 vote with three abstentions.

His substitute bill increases the share of casino gaming revenue for Rota and Tinian, from only 2.5 percent each to 25 percent each. Saipan will get 50 percent.

House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said Tenorio is "selling" the casino bill to Rota and Tinian senators by giving their islands a bigger portion of earnings from casino operation.

"Even a car salesman won't go that far," Benavente later said.

Tenorio, in response, said he wouldn't want his bill to get defeated in the Senate.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said the speaker did his job in making sure it will get the senators' vote.

Senate floor leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), who was in the House chamber to watch the proceeding, told *Saipan Tribune* that the bill will "get killed in the Senate."

Reyes introduced a resolution opposing casinos on Saipan. The Senate adopted the resolution.

"Shame on them," said former representative Tina Sablan, right after the bill passed around 5pm on Capital Hill.

Sablan asked House members at the beginning of the session not to act on the bill until at least the Commerce and Tourism Committee issues a report on the measure.

"If you must act today, please vote no," she told them.

She said just like many in the community, she wants Saipan to stay a beautiful, peaceful tropical place and not another Macau or Las Vegas.

Benavente, for his part, said investing more on the CNMI's remaining industry—tourism—will have the same effect as the revenue to be generated by allowing casinos on Saipan.

Minority's amendment

Unlike the budget bill the House passed last week, the casino bill didn't evoke shouting matches and frayed tempers and everyone who wanted to speak out against or in support of the measure was heard.

Tenorio knew all along that either one of his two casino bills has the vote in the House.

"This will be the most important legislation you will have to vote on in your lifetime so make sure you are in the right side," Tenorio said, eliciting laughter among most of the members and others present in the House chamber.

Benavente also knew even before the session began that Tenorio's bill would muster enough votes to pass.

However, the minority bloc succeeded in inserting a provision prohibiting the governor, lawmakers, other government officials and their immediate family from having direct financial interest from casino operations.

Tenorio initially said there is already a law that prohibits government officials from having direct interests in private enterprises.

But Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said he wants an "express language in the bill" that says so.

"I'm not going to vote on this bill. ... I think the writing is on the wall where this bill is going to go. ... But I want a provision in this bill that says no one in

this decision-making body will have financial interest in the casino operations," he said.

Tenorio, during the session, made a case for his bill several times. He said allowing casino operation on Saipan is the only option left to keep the economy from further recession. He called on minority members to choose to prevent joblessness and four-day workweek by voting on his bill.

"Let's pass this bill right now. ... You people in the minority, you go out and lobby to repeal this bill. ... We have to think about what's best for our Commonwealth," he said.

His bill seeks to set aside the business gross revenue tax collected from casinos to go into the Retirement Fund, while casino gambling revenue is set aside for Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

Republicans and Covenant members debated on the pros and cons of the bill until it was almost 5pm. The voting on the bill came at 4:55pm.

The votes crossed party lines.

Those who voted "yes" on HB 17-55, HS1 included Tenorio, Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Fred

Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan), vice speaker Felicidad Ongumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), and Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan).

Those who voted "no" were Benavente, Dela Cruz, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), and Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

The three who abstained were Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota), Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), and Rep. Trenton B. Conner (R-Tinian).

When asked for their reason for abstaining from voting, Santos told her colleagues that the people of Rota is divided on the Saipan casino bill, while Conner said he leaves it up to the Saipan people's leaders to decide on the measure. Cabrera reserved comment.

Only Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan) was absent from yesterday's session.

Tenorio has another casino bill, HB 17-56, but the House did not act on it yesterday.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez's (Cov-Saipan) Commerce and

Tourism Committee held public hearings on the Saipan casino bill but the panel has yet to issue a committee report.

In the Nov. 3, 2007 elections, Saipan voters who voted "no" to the Saipan casino initiative outnumbered the "yes" votes, 4,721 to 3,492. The "no" to casino prevailed in all Saipan districts.

At that time, Rota voters approved an initiative to establish a casino industry on the island. One investor has so far applied for and was granted a conditional license to operate a casino on Rota.

On Tinian, only Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino has been in operation since 1998.

Tenorio said during the session that Tinian Dynasty is "ready to be shut down."

Kyle Calabrese, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, who was at the House session, said the Chamber has not taken a position on the casino bill.

He said some Chamber members earlier met with the Commerce and Tourism Committee to make some suggestions on how to improve the bill. The Chamber is the largest business group in the CNMI with some 150 members.

5 GOVT

From Page 1

instructor for the Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider Training Program; Anne Marie D. Navarrete, a Northern Marianas Housing Corp. employee; Lorraine Chyanna Rios of the Department of Corrections; and

John Tudela Santos of the Customs Division were summoned to appear in the Superior Court to respond to the charges on Sept. 13, 2010, at 9am.

The OAG alleged that Aldan stole a Sony laptop valued at \$1,200 from PSS on April 12, 2010. Assistant attorney general Russell H. Lorffing stated in the charging information

that Aldan sold the item to the GEC Pawnshop.

Aldan was charged with theft by unlawful taking and theft by failure to make required disposition, and removal or possession of government property.

The OAG alleged that Sebangiol falsified her time sheets several time between April 2007 and October 2009, illegally earning a

total of more than \$4,200.

Also, as lead instructor and in sole custody of funds belonging to Basic Life Support for Healthcare Provider Training Program, Sebangiol allegedly stole \$4,971 that was provided her by program's enrollees.

Sebangiol was charged with 11 counts of theft by deception, two counts of misconduct in

public office, and one count of theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received.

Navarette, Rios, and Santos are being separately charged with theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received, and theft by unlawful taking.

Lorffing said that Navarette stole \$700 from the housing corporation on Dec. 24, 2009,

by not depositing the full \$1,714 into the NMHC account at the Bank of Guam.

Lorffing alleged that Rios stole \$2,150 from Correction on Jan. 8, 2010.

The prosecutor said Santos stole \$260.21 from Finance's Customs Division by not depositing it into Customs' account at the Bank of Guam.

DESPITE

From Page 1

target across all grade levels.

The PSS newsletter showed the following SAT-10 results against PSS' target performance:

■ PSS' overall complete battery result for Grade 3 in school year 2009-2010 was 40 percent—10 percent short of PSS' target and a 3-point decline from school year 2008-2009's score of 43 percent against the year's target of 45 percent;

■ Overall battery test results for Grade 5 was 46 percent, 4

percentage points shy of the 50-percent target last school year. However, Grade 5 students met the SAT-10 expectations in SY 2008 when it leveled at 45 percent;

■ Grade 6 students in all public schools also did not meet the SAT-10 target, coming in at only 46 percent. In school year 2008, though, sixth graders surpassed the 45 percent SAT-10 target by two points;

■ In Grade 8, PSS saw a six-point difference from what it aimed for last school year. Eighth graders posted a 44-percent overall result against the 50-

percent target. However, this is a 1-point increase over school year 2008's result of 43 percent;

■ Among ninth graders, the overall SAT-10 result was 45 percent, or 5 points short of the target. In school year 2008, eight graders scored 44 percent against the year's target of 45 percent; and

■ In Grade 11, overall result was 3 points short of PSS' target, coming in at 47 percent.

Slightly improved

The same PSS newsletter states that four grade levels showed slight improvements in their bat-

tery tests. These include Grade 5, which improved by 1 percent from 2008's 45 percent to 2009's 46 percent.

Grade 8 also posted a slight growth from 43 percent in 2008 to 44 percent last school year; Grade 9, from 44 percent in 2008 to 45 percent in 2009; and Grade 11, from 2008's 46 percent to 2009's 47 percent.

Concern

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan confirmed the latest SAT-10 results in a statement quoted in the PSS newsletter.

"We have a slight growth on

four levels but none of all the grade levels meet the PSS target of 50 percent. It calls for concern for everyone, to look into the data and analyze everything," Sablan is quoted as saying in Students First.

Saipan Tribune learned that there was steady growth across five percentile levels from school year 2003-2004 until the last school year when SAT-10 results dipped.

"What we can do is we have to work on all areas to be able to do things more efficient[ly]. We have to revisit what went wrong and

make needed recommendation. It is the only way we would find out the next school year," added Sablan.

PSS identified four critical steps to ensure high student performance—collect and organize data, analyze data, interpret data, and plan to take action.

PSS began using the SAT-10 in school year 1998-1999 to evaluate student performance. This process monitors the growth of students based on the federally mandated National Percentile Rank achievement level of 100 percent.

Fund's trustees grill auditor on findings; reports recalled

Acting board chair says findings damaging to Fund; blames news leak

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees called its external auditor, J. Scott Magliari & Co., on the carpet yesterday to shed light on recent findings that were leaked to the media and published in the *Saipan Tribune*.

During an hour-long exit conference with the auditors yesterday, acting board chair Jerry Crisostomo was vocal in his disappointment with the news leak, which he said was "damaging" to the reputation of the Fund and its trustees.

Crisostomo also labeled the news reports "incorrect" and "misinterpreted," even going so far as to warn that he will fire any Fund employee who may be identified as the source of the news leak.

However, when asked by *Saipan Tribune* to identify specific points in the reports that were inaccurate or taken out of context, he said: "We just want clarification from our external auditor... because it seems that the report came from them and that's the reason we called them today."

He could not say, however, if the five audit findings, including the \$200,000 undelivered contract, were inaccurate or misinterpreted.

The *Saipan Tribune* article, published on Aug. 17, 2010, cited the independent audit report on the Fund for fiscal year 2009 about a 90-percent paid database system project that has yet to be completed. That audit report states that both the vendor and the Fund violated the project's contract.

It was learned during yesterday's meeting that the project cost \$200,000, was signed in April

2008, and was supposed to be completed in September 2008.

'Weakness in internal control'

Two J. Scott Magliari's representatives appeared before the board yesterday to explain numerous points in their audit findings. Perlie T. Santos and principal Karvin L. Flynn also stressed that the copy obtained by *Saipan Tribune* was not from J. Scott Magliari.

During the discussion, Santos defended their findings.

"It's a material weakness in internal control. The fact that the service is not fully delivered, in effect your assets is overstated. It's a material weakness because it's \$200,000, which is 90 percent paid off, supposedly to be completed two years ago. It is recorded as an asset but it's not running so this means you're materially misstating your financial statement that you have an asset but it's actually an idle asset," she said.

Despite this finding, Santos said the Fund's financial statements were not materially misstated.

Saipan Tribune learned that the same issue was incorporated in the auditor's management letters in fiscal year 2008 but was not resolved until 2009.

Santos and Flynn declined to be interviewed yesterday.

'Not a final copy'

Crisostomo said the audit report obtained by *Saipan Tribune* was not the "final copy"—even if it was already submitted to the Office of the Public Auditor.

"I would say that the findings is not complete because... as you can see it was taken back now," he said.

According to Santos, 30 copies of the audit report were

produced for the Fund's trustees and OPA.

Yesterday, both parties agreed to recall all these 30 copies to incorporate the corrective measures on the five findings indicated in the report.

Flynn said the recall is to reflect the changes to be made when the Fund submits its corrective measures.

Fund comptroller David Demapan asked for a week to prepare all the necessary documents for the corrective measure.

PHI Pharmacy
Your Partner In Diabetes Care

Good Neighbor PHARMACY

Open on Labor Day!

September 6, 2010
at Navy Hill and Dandan locations

Business Hours

- Navy Hill (CHC) 8am-4pm • Tel.: 323-5000/01/02 • Fax: 323-5011
- Dandan (Joeten Dandan Center) 8am-4pm • Tel.: 235-6170/1/2/4

We accept Medicaid and all local health insurances at all PHI Pharmacy locations.

PHI Pharmacy...the pharmacy you can trust.

Website: www.phipharmacy.com

BUD LIGHT

www.gorillawarfaremma.com

GORILLA WARFARE MMA

ARMAGEDDON

08.28.10

SAIPAN WORLD RESORT HOTEL

GWMMA MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP BELT
FEATURING THE GWMMA CHAMPION
KELI RUKIZ MANGLONA

WITH 10 OTHER FIGHTS THAT WILL MAKE YOU HOLD ON TO YOUR SEAT

WITH LIVE PERFORMANCE BY
Tribalhaze

DOOR OPENS AT 6:00PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT BOARDERLINE AND THE SET

General \$35.00 V.I.P. \$45.00

IT&E
Life in Motion

IT&E
Life in Motion

GORILLA WARFARE MMA

BIBA
POWER 99

BOARDERLINE

THE SET

QUIRUS
BLACK SWORD SOCIETY

OTM
TESTIMONY

Hard Rock
Cafe

Hertz

SKECHIERS

2 convenient locations to better serve you!



HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.

Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.

Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

NMPASI exec: Housing aid program for six months only

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six months.

That's the maximum length of time that anybody can avail of benefits from the housing aid

program of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., according to executive director Jim Rayphand yesterday.

Rayphand said the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid

Re-Housing Program allows for benefits of up to 18 months but the money they got only allows them to extend benefits of up to a maximum of six months.

"Based on the amount of money and the number of people

that applied [for benefits], all we could do was six months. But for clarity, nobody got more than six months," he said.

A homeless family of seven was forced to take shelter on the stage of the Susupe Beach

Park on Sunday after their housing benefits expired on Aug. 15, 2010.

Noel Saluta, 39, and his wife, Juliet Saluta, 37, both jobless, packed up their belongings and brought their children—ages 7,

6, 4, 2 years old, and a 6-month-old infant—to the park's stage after police officers gave them three days to leave their apartment as their contract had already expired.

The Saluta family was transferred to the Sun Palace Hotel Monday afternoon after former Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez arranged for their free stay until tomorrow, Thursday.

The Saluta couple said they had heard that some people got 18 months of housing benefits.

Rayphand denied this, saying that, in fact, some families only got three months' worth of benefits.

He estimated that there is still \$50,000 of the funds left.

"But there's still a long list of people, so what we did is spread it out," he said.

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program had a total funding of \$335,224. The U.S. Housing and Urban Development administers the program.

Of the 2,000 people that applied, about 200 families were found eligible to avail of the program, Rayphand said.

BOE to PSS:
Map out action plan on FY'09 audit findings

The Board of Education wants a comprehensive report from the Public School System on how it plans to resolve audit findings identified last fiscal year.

During Friday's board meeting on Capital Hill, board member Herman T. Guerrero instructed the leadership team of PSS to formulate corrective actions for all audit concerns.

Guerrero is the chairman of the board's committee on fiscal and personnel affairs.

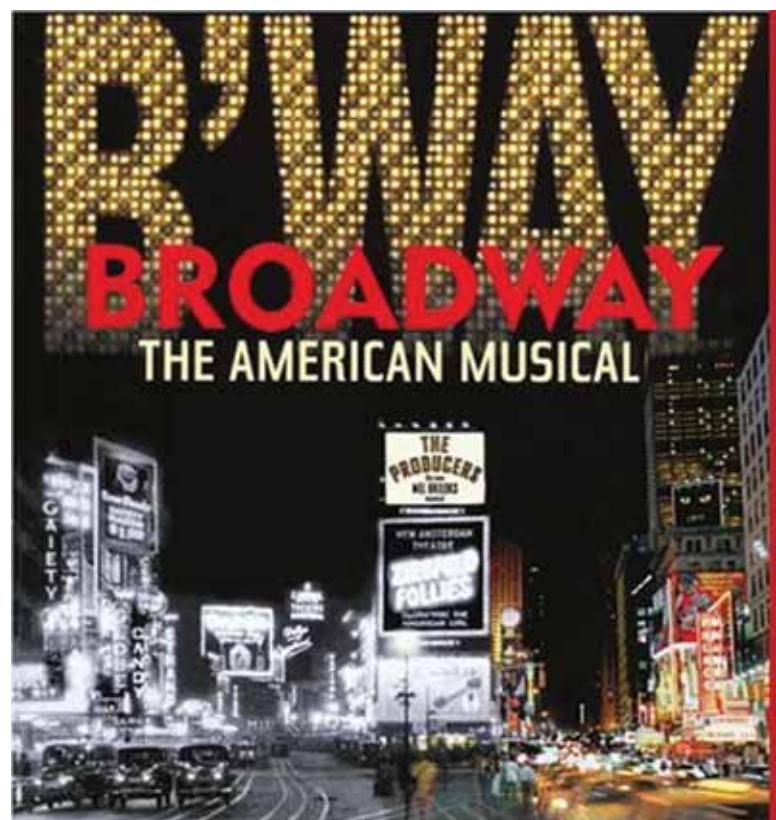
Once recommendations are received from PSS, Guerrero said the board will discuss the suggested action plans thoroughly.

"I don't know what the Commissioner of Education will be recommending...but what we're asking for is a comprehensive report to see how we can correct all the deficiencies in the audit," Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* after the meeting.

The recent fiscal year 2009 audit report on PSS uncovered numerous violations in the system's established travel and employment contract policies.

In its management letter to PSS, the independent auditor noted an increase in the number and cost of professional service contracts and the lack of cost-benefit analysis of hiring against contracting professionals.

It was also learned that PSS processed several small purchase orders for room rental for the year ending September 2008 and September 2009 as well as unauthorized travel advances of PSS personnel. The PSS management was also noted for its penchant for overriding controls. (*Moneth Deposa*)



"Broadway, the American Musical"

Enjoy an evening of great company, a delicious selection of Italian appetizers, cocktails, and raffle door prizes including i Sagua Spa treatments, accommodation vouchers and dinner packages.

Raise a toast as Giovanni's turns 15, while the talented "The Star Society" hit the right notes through the evening.

Date Friday, August 27th, 2010

Time 6:30pm - 9:30pm

Venue Giovanni's at the Hyatt Regency Saipan
Island formal

\$35.00 per person for non-CATH members

\$30.00 per person for Club at the Hyatt members

R.S.V.P.

For reservations and details, please call 234-1234 extension 26

*Being a cocktail event we do not take table reservations.



VALUE PLANS TO FIT ANY BUDGET

**UNLIMITED local SMS
UNLIMITED Nights and Weekends**

Value 25

1 \$25*/month

600 local minutes /month

400 PTT minutes /month



FOR ALL PLANS

Value 35

2 \$35*/month

1200 local minutes /month

800 PTT minutes /month



FOR PLANS
\$50 & UP

Value 45

3 \$45*/month

2400 local minutes /month

UNLIMITED PTT minutes

plus

Excess local and PTT minutes rate - 20¢/minute

Roll over unused minutes to the next month

GUAM/SAIPAN OFFICE 888.8888

iCONNECT
www.iconnectsaipan.com

*Some conditions apply. Unlimited Nights and Weekends include PTT and local calls only.

PIC Saipan awards scholarships to NMC students

The Pacific Islands Club awarded seven scholarships yesterday totaling \$10,500 to students at the Northern Marianas College. The scholarships were awarded as part of the company's commitment to expand higher education opportunities for CNMI students.

The recipients of the PIC scholarship are: Lawrence Camacho, Antonette Castro, Hazel Doctor, Shannon Hofsneider, Katherine Mersai, Jan Michael Reyes, and Sharisse Rivera. All are pursuing their degrees at the Northern Marianas College.

"We are proud to help the Northern Marianas College advance its mission of helping our students improve their quality of life by advancing their educational and professional development," said Kieran Daly, PIC Saipan general manager.

"For many years, the Pacific Islands Club has been a strong partner of the college and has always been generous with their contributions to our students,"

NMC interim president Lorraine Cabrera said. "These scholarship awards will go a long way in helping students achieve their educational goals."

The PIC Saipan scholarship program aims to: (1) promote higher education by providing financial assistance for college students in their pursuit of professional careers; (2) to help alleviate the critical current and future shortage of skilled and trained workforce for the CNMI; and (3) to provide current public and private sector employees with opportunities to improve their knowledge and skills, and enhance their career and professional development.

The scholarship program provides the students with \$1,500 scholarships to full-time NMC students who are pursuing a degree in business, criminal justice, nursing, education, natural resource management, liberal arts, or hospitality management. (NMC)

Bordallo requests extension on waiting period for the Final EIS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) sent a letter to Jackalynne Pfaffenstiel, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment, last week requesting an extension to the 30-day waiting period following the release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The Notice of Availability on the Final EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 28, 2010, and the Department of Defense has planned to issue the Record of Decision shortly after the 30-day waiting period has passed.

"An extension to the wait-

ing period for the Final EIS would give our community, local decision-makers, the Navy, and other federal agencies more time to review this extensive document," Bordallo said yesterday. "It is important that all of our concerns highlighted in the Final EIS, especially those of location for the proposed firing range and the transit carrier berthing location, are appropriately addressed in the Record of Decision. An extension to the waiting period would allow for this necessary time to evaluate alternative plans and better identify ways to mitigate any potential impacts to our community." (PR)



Northern Marianas College students Jan Michael Reyes, Lawrence Camacho, parent of Katherine Mersai, Sharisse Rivera, Antonette Castro, Shannon Hofsneider, and parent of Hazel Doctor display their scholarship checks from the Pacific Islands Club Saipan Scholarship program in a group photo with PIC Saipan Executive Vicky Benavente, third from left and NMC interim president Lorraine Cabrera, fifth from left. The seven students were each awarded \$1,500 from the program during an award ceremony held at PIC Saipan on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010.

NATIONAL CRACKDOWN

August 20-September 6, 2010



BAM! YOUR LIFE JUST CHANGED.



CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
OFFICIAL SEAL

Drive drunk and you will be prosecuted
to the full extent of the law.

DRUNK DRIVING
OVER THE LIMIT. UNDER ARREST.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
OFFICIAL SEAL



PIZZA

We've Been Making Pizza
On Saipan Since 1989

Buy a Large
Get a Medium for **FREE** (one topping)

No Limit - Buy 10 Get 10 FREE
Buy 100 Get 100 FREE

Beach Road - Garapan
2 3 4 - 3 9 7 6



CNMI-OSHA ONSITE

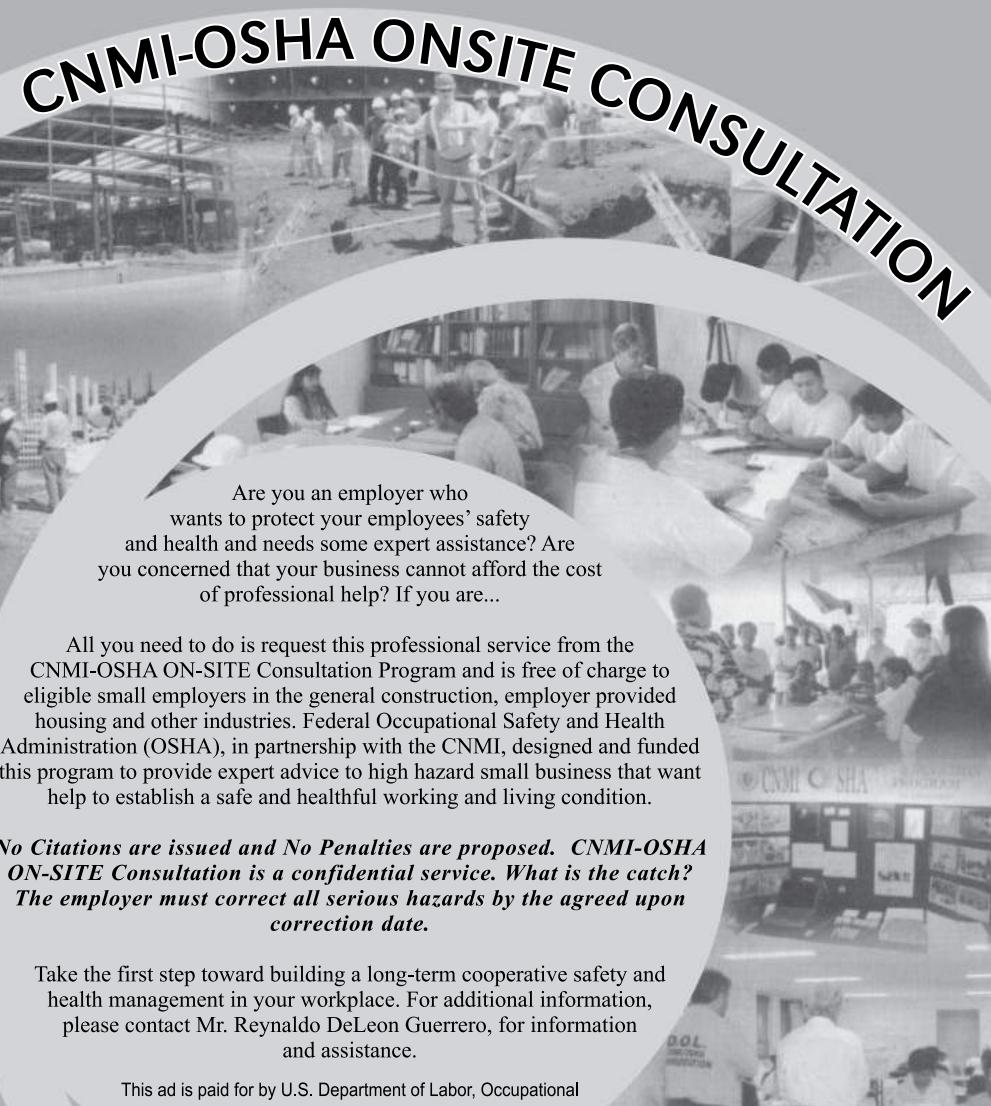
Consultation Program

2/F Afetna Bldg., San Antonio, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 236-0913/0988/0989 • Fax: (670) 664-3158

Email: guerrero.ray@doj.gov





CNMI-OSHA ONSITE CONSULTATION

Are you an employer who wants to protect your employees' safety and health and needs some expert assistance? Are you concerned that your business cannot afford the cost of professional help? If you are...

All you need to do is request this professional service from the CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation Program and is free of charge to eligible small employers in the general construction, employer provided housing and other industries. Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), in partnership with the CNMI, designed and funded this program to provide expert advice to high hazard small business that want help to establish a safe and healthful working and living condition.

No Citations are issued and No Penalties are proposed. CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation is a confidential service. What is the catch? The employer must correct all serious hazards by the agreed upon correction date.

Take the first step toward building a long-term cooperative safety and health management in your workplace. For additional information, please contact Mr. Reynaldo DeLeon Guerrero, for information and assistance.

This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CUC-RFP-10-045

USED OIL REMOVAL, TANK CLEANING, AND INSPECTION at ROTA POWER PLANT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced firms for the "TANK CLEANING" - at its Rota Power Plant, in Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All the work will be done as a part of the US EPA Stipulated Order No. 2 (SO2) response action and is subject to their approval. This project will be funded through the grant awarded by the US Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs:

A. Project 1:

1. Workplan Preparation;
2. Used Oil Removal, Cleaning, and Inspection of Tank R2 (20,000 USG, each), used for used oil storage;
3. Used Oil Removal, Cleaning and Inspection of tank R3 (5,000 USG), used for used oil storage;
4. Removal of diesel, Cleaning, and Inspection of tank R1 (231,000 USG), used for diesel storage;
5. Lube Oil Removal, Cleaning, and Inspection of tank R 4 (9,000USG), used for new lube oil storage;
6. Removal of used oil in Drums

B. Project 2:

1. Workplan preparation;
2. Repair R2, after cleaning;
3. Repair R3, after cleaning;
4. Repair R4 after cleaning;
5. Repair R1 after cleaning

RFP Deadlines and Highlights:

Proposal Submission - One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-10-045 USED OIL REMOVAL AND TANK CLEANING at ROTA POWER PLANT" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 31, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST) local time**. Late submissions will not be considered.

The Scope-of-Work will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays. **until August 26, 2010. A non-refundable payment of \$200 will be required for each set of Plans, Specification, and Proposal Forms.**

- A Pre-proposal Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **August 26, 2010 at 1200 PM** CUC ROTA Power Plant, ROTA.
- A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surely companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a U.S. Treasury listed company. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.
- The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.
- This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of Interior.

Submission of questions and clarifications must be submitted in writing via email no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time **on August 27, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Procurement and Supply Manager via email msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Support Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; Mr. William Sword, Technical Manager for Oil; via email william.sword@gmail.com and Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Project Manager, Power generation, via email venu@cucgov.net. **CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kilili to host dinner fundraiser

Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is holding a dinner fundraiser today, Aug. 25, 2010, at 6:30pm at the Magellan Restaurant of Pacific Islands Club on Saipan.

Sablan is seeking re-election as the Northern Mariana Islands' delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. He is number 3 on the ballot.

"This dinner fundraiser is not only a get-together of our supporters but also an excellent opportunity for me to personally speak about my plans as I renew my commitment to serve my constituents with integrity, honesty, dedication and hard work," Sablan said.

Minimum donation to the fundraiser is \$50 per person, which can be paid by cash, check or credit card at <https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/kililifundraisingdinner>. Sablan's campaign committee is the first in the CNMI to accept contributions online. Sablan is using Democratic contribution site ActBlue.com, which can be accessed at KililiforCongress.com.

"Winning an election requires financial resources and we need the public's support to power our campaign," Sablan said.

"The funds we raise will help our campaign reach out to voters—visiting people's homes, sending mailings and producing posters, bumper stickers, and placing newspaper ads," he added.

For more information or ticket reservations, e-mail info@kililiforcongress.com or call 234-VOTE (8683). (PR)

Zoning board on Marianas Agupa on Saturday

This Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010, Marianas Agupa will feature the Saipan Zoning board from 10am to 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be on the current development by the Zoning Office.

The Chamorro Talk Show Program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, with special guest host, former mayor Joseph S. Inos. The talk show airs every Saturday between 9am to 11am. The show also features a special report from Rota with correspondent and commentator Thomas D. Mendiola from Rota and a report from Tinian by correspondent and radio commentator, former senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. For more information, email marianasagupa@gmail.com. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 25, 1999

OSHA seeks partnership with SGMA

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration is looking at forging "cooperative partnership" with the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association in efforts to ensure compliance with local and federal laws as well as to improve working conditions on the island. Jim Wulff, safety and health manager for OSHA Region 9 which covers the CNMI, said there is a marked improvement in the conditions at several factories, but added others may need to step up their in-house safety and health programs. He also hailed the SGMA's decision to conduct workshop for its members as part of the implementation of the Code of Conduct that will spell out efforts by the group to comply with the OSHA regulations.

Gov't prepares Puerto Rico dump closure

The Division on Solid Waste is planning to establish a large transfer station with a recycling facility in a three-acre land in preparation for the closure of the Puerto Rico dump. At the same time, the government is looking at the possibility of setting up two or three convenient centers to help residents in villages dispose of their garbage efficiently, according to John Harder, municipal waste management manager. The large transfer station and the recycling facility may be located between the area near Puerto Rico dump and the Lower Base area. However, the recycling facility may be run by a private company.

Aug. 25, 2000

Plan to amend gun control law worries Senate

Following concerns on the safety of the community, the Senate is expected to scrutinize legislation that will amend the Weapons Control Act to encourage development of resorts offering shooting practices and target ranges. While supportive of the efforts to bring in new investments into the CNMI, Senate President Paul A. Manglona said he needs to consider safety concerns when the measure is deliberated in the upper house. The House of Representatives passed early this week in a split vote HB 12-212 offered by Floor Leader Oscar M. Babauta in an effort to lure so-called shooting resorts into the Commonwealth.

Govt sued for unlawful termination

A former government employee filed a civil complaint yesterday in the U.S. District Court against the CNMI government, claiming unlawful termination from her job at the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council. Emerencia Peter-Palican from Saipan now wants her government job back, aside from seeking undetermined amount in damages, including attorney's fees and litigation costs, arising from her termination in December 11, 1997. In her suit filed by lawyer Douglas F. Cushnie, she named as defendants Director of Personnel Mathilda A. Rosario, and GDDC executive director Thomas J. Camacho, in his official and individual capacity.

Aug. 25, 2002

Teacher-aides train to better help students with disabilities

The Public School System, in collaboration with the University of Hawaii and the Northern Marianas College, held Saturday a whole day of training for teachers-aides specializing on the needs of students with disabilities. The teacher aides—at least 26 of them from various public schools across the Northern Marianas—gathered at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds starting at 10am yesterday for a Related Services Technicians training. According to University of Hawaii faculty member and physical therapist Katherine Rathliffe, the RST Family Fun Fair gathered teacher-aides, their families, and students with disabilities in a whole day of fun and awareness activities.

A sanctuary for birds; a sight to behold for tourists

Tourists and residents come to the Saipan's elevation on the northern side past Marpi and even the Lichan Point to have a majestic view of what appears to be a rocky hill floating on the waters of the Saipan Lagoon a stone's throw away from the coastline—the Bird Island. It is not far from what it really appears: Bird Island is a stone islet on a coral reef. Bird Island is not only majestic by nature. To birds, it is home to rest after freely wandering the skies and flapping its wings. As its name suggests, it is a bird sanctuary on the island. Birds glide smoothly into the air and fast-land on resting areas within the slope of Bird Island itself, when viewed from binoculars or high-zoom cameras from the Bird Island lookout area.

New Fund investment consultant's contract set for Oct.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund's new investment consultant will begin work on Oct. 1 when the new fiscal year kicks in, according to acting Fund administrator Richard Vilagomez yesterday.

He said Wilshire Associates Inc. was given an open contract, meaning it has no specific time-

frame or duration, but it will be subject to constant evaluation by the Fund's board of trustees.

"We're in transition right now and they will begin Oct. 1st," he told *Saipan Tribune* during a break in yesterday's special board meeting.

Vilagomez said the Fund management will regularly evaluate Wilshire Associates' performance so the Retirement Fund could

bring to its attention any problems for immediate resolution.

Wilshire Associates Inc. bested three other top candidates that included the Fund's current consultant, Merrill Lynch, Buck Consultants, LLC and Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

Wilshire Associates is based in Santa Monica, California.

Vilagomez said its consulting fee has yet to be finalized.

"I don't have the figure right now," he said.

The hiring of a investment consultant was prompted following a decision by Merrill Lynch to increase its fees. The company was making about \$150,000 per year from the Fund. The company wants to increase its service fee to about \$180,000 yearly.

Merrill Lynch was last hired by the Fund in 2008 when the Fund's

investment portfolio was valued at around \$300 million. In the last two years, the company collected \$300,000 from the Fund for its services. It was earlier learned that the highest service payment it received was probably in 2007 when the Fund's portfolio was at \$400 million.

Last year, some retirees sued Merrill Lynch, alleging that the consultant overcharged the

Fund, accusing it of negligence for providing "bad advice" to the trustees, resulting in millions of investment losses. The case is pending in court.

Both the management and the board of trustees, during the announcement of the final selection of a new consultant early this month, expressed confidence that their choice will result in positive growth for the pension program.

SHIPPING SCHEDULE



Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SENTOSA	042E	8/14 Sat	8/12 Thu	8/12 Thu	8/10 Tue	8/7 Sat	8/20 Fri	8/16 Mon	8/15 Sun	8/8 Sun	8/8 Sun	8/16 Mon	8/20 Fri	8/22 Sun	8/24 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	008E	8/21 Sat	8/19 Thu	8/19 Thu	8/17 Tue	8/14 Sat	8/27 Fri	8/23 Mon	8/22 Sun	8/15 Sun	8/15 Sun	8/23 Mon	8/27 Fri	8/29 Sun	8/31 Tue
MELL SILOSO	009E	8/28 Sat	8/26 Thu	8/26 Thu	8/24 Tue	8/21 Sat	9/3 Fri	8/30 Mon	8/29 Sun	8/22 Sun	8/22 Sun	8/30 Mon	9/3 Fri	9/5 Sun	9/7 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	043E	9/4 Sat	9/2 Thu	9/2 Thu	8/31 Tue	8/28 Sat	9/10 Fri	9/6 Mon	9/5 Sun	8/29 Sun	8/29 Sun	9/6 Mon	9/10 Fri	9/12 Sun	9/14 Tue
MELL SPRINGLEAF	009E	9/11 Sat	9/9 Thu	9/9 Thu	9/7 Tue	9/4 Sat	9/17 Fri	9/13 Mon	9/12 Sun	9/5 Sun	9/5 Sun	9/13 Mon	9/17 Fri	9/19 Sun	9/21 Tue
MELL SILOSO	010E	9/18 Sat	9/16 Thu	9/16 Thu	9/14 Tue	9/11 Sat	9/24 Fri	9/20 Mon	9/19 Sun	9/12 Sun	9/12 Sun	9/20 Mon	9/24 Fri	9/26 Sun	9/28 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore	
MELL SENTOSA	042E	8/28 Sat	8/29 Sun	8/29 Sun	SKIP	9/1 Wed	9/3 Fri	9/5 Sun	SKIP	9/10 Fri	9/11 Sat	9/16 Thu	10/5 Tue	9/19 Sun	9/15 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	008E	9/4 Sat	9/5 Sun	9/5 Sun	9/7 Tue	9/8 Wed	9/10 Fri	9/12 Sun	SKIP	9/17 Fri	9/18 Sat	9/23 Thu	10/12 Tue	9/26 Sun	9/22 Wed
MELL SILOSO	009E	9/11 Sat	9/12 Sun	9/12 Sun	SKIP	9/15 Wed	9/17 Fri	9/19 Sun	SKIP	9/24 Fri	9/25 Sat	9/30 Thu	10/19 Tue	10/3 Sun	9/29 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	043E	9/18 Sat	9/19 Sun	9/19 Sun	9/21 Tue	9/22 Wed	9/24 Fri	9/26 Sun	SKIP	10/1 Fri	10/2 Sat	10/7 Thu	10/26 Tue	10/10 Sun	10/6 Wed
MELL SPRINGLEAF	009E	9/25 Sat	9/26 Sun	9/26 Sun	SKIP	9/29 Wed	10/1 Fri	10/3 Sun	SKIP	10/8 Fri	10/9 Sat	10/14 Thu	11/2 Tue	10/17 Sun	10/13 Wed
MELL SILOSO	010E	10/2 Sat	10/3 Sun	10/3 Sun	10/5 Tue	10/6 Wed	10/8 Fri	10/10 Sun	SKIP	10/15 Fri	10/16 Sat	10/21 Thu	11/9 Tue	10/24 Sun	10/20 Wed

Weekly service. More frequent. More dependable.

Website: www.mariana-express.com

Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

CTSI LOGISTICS,
CTSI Building, Lower Base,
P.O. Box 501937,
Saipan MP 96950

Website: www.ctsi-logistics.com

Edgar T. Garcia
Inbound/Outbound
Direct line (670) 236-2422

Leslie R. Alcantara
Sales and Marketing
Direct line (670) 236-2402



The CNMI will get its FAIR SHARE because YOU participated in the 2010 CNMI CENSUS!



Thank You!

Si Yu'us Ma'ase ありがとう
Olomwaay Gracias Salamat
謝謝 Спасибо dhanyabaad
당신을 감사하십시오 ខុសគុណ

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNN'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 202

Published daily at 2/F JP Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Tolerance and a mosque

We realized that a policy debate had lost its bearings this week when Newt Gingrich compared the Muslim leaders who want to build a mosque near Ground Zero to genocidal soldiers. "Nazis don't have the right to put up a sign next to the Holocaust museum in Washington," Gingrich said. "There is no reason for us to accept a mosque next to the World Trade Center."

Tempting as it is to rebuff Gingrich, in truth all of us ought to thank him. His intemperate and strained metaphor offers calmer minds a genuinely useful reminder:

Our Constitution guarantees the freedom of all faiths. Not just the ones most of us are comfortable having as neighbors. Not just the ones that attract the most members or the ones whose faith traditions resemble our own. All faiths.

Yes, the notion of an Islamic center two blocks from a site many New Yorkers view as sacred ground is sure to produce visceral responses. But visceral responses don't dictate, or obliterate, what our minds hold true.

If Gingrich wanted to evoke the wounds of World War II, he might have used a different touchstone: It wasn't easy for Americans to speak up for the First Amendment when neo-Nazis wanted to march in the streets of Skokie, Ill. Any more than it has been comfortable to protect the rights of people to burn the American flag as an exercise of free speech.

But protecting the unpopular is what our Constitution assures that we do. And a community center, mosque or no, is a remarkably far cry from anti-Semitic parades or flag-burnings. To the extent that this Islamic center is a symbol, it's a symbol not of al-Qaeda or the Taliban, but of a religion. A faith. A system of belief.

We've already said why we favor allowing the mosque to be built. We support the developer's right to build on private property as law permits. Local officials green-lighted the project by a 29-1 vote. That should be that.

But the issue keeps simmering because some politicians see a "wedge" issue—a way to galvanize voters in the November elections.

They're right that Ground Zero is emotional for many Americans.

Wedge issues by definition are disruptive, but not always predictably. They can attract some voters but alienate others. And they can mark those who drive the wedge as dangerous agents of harm. The peril in this case: stoking religious intolerance against Muslims.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie wisely warns his fellow Republicans against "overreacting" and painting "Islam with a brush of radical Muslim extremists that just want to kill Americans because we are Americans." Not that they would value his words, but Christie also ought to share his admonition with Democrats such as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, an opportunist who, with full appreciation of public opinion, evidently thinks his opposition to the center will help his re-election campaign in Nevada.

It's fine to wish the imam and developer advancing this project had chosen a less sensitive site. It's fine to wish they had spoken with New York Gov. David Paterson, a Democrat, about alternative siting. It's even fine to flat-out resent this project as a provocation or worse. Think what you will. This is ... a free country.

It's not fine, though, to take the next step, to thwart creation of this center because some among us—maybe many among us—find it objectionable. New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg a Republican, deserves credit for his unequivocal stance: This is about religious tolerance, period.

We're encouraged that many Americans understand this. A re-

See TOLERANCE on Next Page



The immigration debate

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

—William Ward's words of wisdom.

We commend Sen. Paul A. Manglona for reframing the terms of the immigration reflections in his recent letter to the editor. "I believe it is futile to simply oppose the DOI report and its badly crafted recommendations," he wrote. "The DOI report was required by P.L. 110-229 to draft a report on what should happen with long-term guest workers. Agree or disagree, they compiled. But we must remember that the DOI does not have the right to determine; Congress must do that. So why wouldn't our people provide our own recommendation?"

Manglona reminds everyone that the DOI report provides a list of five possible outcomes. Media and the public seem to have chosen to look at a "one size fits all" perspective, and so the discourse has been to either reject the whole set of recommendations, or promote all of it. The basic recommendation is: "Consistent with the goals of comprehensive immigration reform, we recommend that the Congress consider permitting alien workers who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for a minimum period of five years to apply for long-term status under the immigration and nationality laws of the United States..."

It might be helpful to remember that the recommendations were for those who *have lawfully resided in the CNMI* (italics added). The numbers indicate that those who may fall under the fuzzier pale of the law are an extreme minority.

Of the numbers, Interior went with estimates: 20,859 resident aliens, 16,304 are contract workers. Ninety-nine percent are not removable, or deportable for cause under current regulations. Those who criticize the numbers had not shown the official set, presumably available from the CNMI Immigration Division.

Of the estimated numbers, this paper reported the Ombudsman's figures: 15,816 declared residency in the CNMI for five years or more; 2,221 have been here for three to five years; 1,979 have been here for six months to three years; 819 have been here for less than six months; and 24 undeclared. Now, as everyone knows, manipulating numbers easily lends itself to promote certain views. For instance, the 15.8K number would be overwhelming at first glance, but if we break down the 15.8K number further to 5, 10, 15, 20-year residency, and consider how it applies against the recommendations, we might get a different picture re implications of outright citizenship to authorized residency.

Add to that a Saipan Chamber of Commerce sampling indicating that labor needs will increase by 15.9 percent between November 2009 and 2014 and we have a clear case of the continuing role of off-island contract workers on the economy.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



If political blocs are a concern, the Chinese, Koreans, and Japanese hardly see eye-to-eye, and the governments of the nation of their origins are still busy sniping at each other. The south Asians (Indians, Pakistanis, Afghans, Nepalese, Sri Lankans, Bangladeshis) can barely sit at the same table. The Khmers, Thais, Laos and Vietnamese are too few and also have a very "friendly" smiling Buddha Indochina disposition that they can hardly be considered a threat (unless one is a sensitized red/yellow Thai). Indonesian and Malaysian Muslims are usually lumped with the Filipino Muslims, if they are here at all.

If the Filipinos are a political concern, their global history has been one of inter-linguistic wrangling. No group metamorphoses faster into disparate organizations than dialect-centered *Pinoys*. We've known that to occur even in the Marianas as one set of organizational election losers break away to organize a new group. But more fundamentally, as ex-Guv Lang allegedly said at one time to his constituents: "If you do not like Filipinos, look at yourself in the mirror!" Genetically and linguistically, of course, Marianas indigenes are closer cousins to Pinoys more than publicly acknowledged. So, where's the beef?

The immigration issue is about being a part of the sovereign rule of the United States of America. Some Marianas indigenes have not really joined that union existentially, although they have done so officially; they are usually the ones with the loudest voice of protest to having "aliens" join the ranks of the "faithful" citizenry in a nation of immigrants!

So might we begin at the objective level and get our head counts. Census 2010 is over, and might soon have that data available. We have the records of the CNMI Immigration Division, and the rapid count of the Ombudsman's Office. Interior was asked five things, the last being the least objective: their recommendations. Might we return to the objective level and start our conversations from there?

OK, so there is an agreement that the Interior recommendations were poorly written. Can we now get our legal luminaries and interested parties to rewrite the recommendations so that NMI residents who have lawfully resided in the CNMI for a minimum period of five years can apply for long-term status under the immigration and nationality laws of the United States? Sen. Manglona?

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Saipanpreneur Profile: Riza Oledan-Ramos

» And the boy who dreamed to be with his parents on Saipan!

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Riza Oledan-Ramos is a staff nurse at the Commonwealth Health Center on the island of Saipan. Like many guest workers here on Saipan, Riza had to make the heart-wrenching decision to leave her son in Manila, Philippines, while she came here to work. It's a story shared by millions of such "long distance families" around the world. It's a story that deserves to be told. It's a story that Riza has decided to tell.

The Boy Who Dreamed to Be With His Parents on Saipan is a children's book about a little boy left in the care of his aunt and grandparents in Manila, told from the perspective of the little boy himself. I had the chance to interview Riza just prior to the book's publication.

Walt: How did you get the idea for the book?

Riza: Last year, my son, Emmanuel—who was 8 at the time—asked me to help him with a school project. He had to write his autobiography. So, we started collecting his baby pictures and revisited events that had occurred in his life. He shared his thoughts as we looked at the photographs. As I input his words into the computer, he told me things he remembered, things he actually felt, and things about his life that I had missed while I was away from him. I was surprised and touched by all the strong emotions and perceptions he had about his life back home while his father and I were away on Saipan preparing a better life for him.

Walt: That must have stirred quite a mix of emotions. How did the writing of the report affect you?

Riza: As I was typing, I kept thinking, "Oh, my gosh, what have I done? How could I have left my child for the sake of my dreams? Because I also want to work abroad. I told my son what parents always tell their children: "This is for your best."

The day I left, he said to me, "Mommy, how could you say it's for my best when you have to leave me?"

That made an imprint on my mind and my heart. And even on the airplane coming to Saipan, I thought to myself, "Maybe he's right. How CAN it be for his good when I'm leaving him?"

It was very difficult, but as we finished my son's project, I had the idea that we could actually make a real book; a book worthy enough to share with the world. Every day in the Philippines and around the world, many parents are leaving their home countries to find work elsewhere to give their children a better future. I felt a book like this could help many families. As a parent, there are things you know in your mind, and then there are things you can only hear in your heart when your child tells you in their own words.

Walt: Who is the book for?

Riza: I have two purposes for writing this book. First, it's for the children, to help them understand why mom and dad leave for a job far away. I want them to know that what their parents are doing is really for their best.

Second, it's also for parents. This is like your child opening his feelings to you. My aim is not only to make reading memorable to children, but also to touch a parent's heart with simple words from a child's point of view. One thing parents should remember is that a promise is very important to a child. If you promise something to a child, you should keep that promise. You can't understand how much that promise means to them—especially if it's a promise to come back to be with them and be a whole family again.

Walt: I can attest that the book, as simple as it is, is also powerful reading for adults, too.

Riza: Rodante Guarda, the illustrator referred to me by Donna at Elite Printing, told me he cried when he was illustrating the part of the story where the mom is going to the airport. He told me he couldn't actually see his brush because he was crying so much. Even though he is back in the Philippines now, he was once on

Saipan for three years, and he could relate, and recalled just how much he missed his wife and family while he was here.

Walt: Riza, this book represents not just Emmanuel's dream, but yours too. How does it feel now to be a published author?

Riza: After writing this book, I feel like I now have something of value. I didn't just exist. I have a value on this earth. I did this! I can go beyond! We can all go beyond if we want to. The work schedule may be difficult, but if we really want to, we can really do it. I was able to create something of value that made me a little different from who I was before.

Walt: Congratulations! Was the actual writing process difficult for you?

Riza: No. Actually, it just came naturally. It was really my son's project. I didn't actually plan to write this at all. I call it my "accidental book." It took two weeks to finish the school project, and took another year for it to be realized.

Walt: Even though the book has universal appeal, it also teaches people a little bit about Filipino culture, doesn't it?

Riza: Yes, for the world as a whole, I want people to know Fili-



Riza Oledan-Ramos, and her son, Emmanuel. Inset, *The Boy Who Dreamed to Be With His Parents on Saipan*.

pinos are hard workers. As a culture, Filipinos leave their families, but it's not just for the dollar. There are real sacrifices; we leave our children, we leave our parents, all to make better lives and a better future.

Walt: What's the most important message that Emmanuel can teach the book's readers?

Riza: The most important thing for a child is his parents' time and attention—love and care—material things are not really what a child needs or wants.

Walt: As the inspiration, and "as told by" author of the book, what does Emmanuel think about his mom's book?

Riza: He doesn't have a deep understanding of it all yet. But, he said, "Mama, we're going to be rich!" I told him money comes as a bonus when you do something that really helps people.

Walt: I saw all the drafts and photos for the school project. He put quite a lot of work into it.

Riza: Yes, his teacher gave him an A+!

Walt: How has your family responded to your new identity?

Riza: My husband, Ferdinand, has always been very supportive. Every time I am stuck with my writing, he reminds me to think only of the story and the momentum. If I'm working on different projects, he's the one who cooks for us so that I can keep working on my writing. He even bought and installed a backup battery for my computer so that I wouldn't lose my work when the power goes out.

Walt: Any final words?

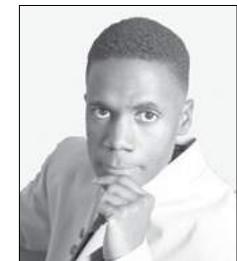
Riza: You know, I think about this a lot. There's a lot of children being left by their parents not only in the Philippines, but all over the world. What kind of children will we have in the future? What kind of families? My brother worked overseas. Now his daughter also wants to go away. It continues from generation to generation.

But it's a lonely thing, for everyone involved, you know? I was

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the *Saipan Tribune*



Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 16 books including *Turn Your Passion Into Profit*. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www.passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter (@waltonsaipan).

thinking about my sister who took care of Emmanuel when I first arrived on Saipan. When you leave a child with a sibling like that, they get attached to that child. My sister was telling me, "I didn't have children, but at least I was able to have your son for a while."

One day I called her on her cell phone in Manila, and I heard the sound of children playing in the background.

I asked her, "Where are you?"

"I'm at your son's school," she said.

"What are you doing there?" I asked. I was surprised.

"Just dropping by," she said. She couldn't say directly to me, "I miss your son," but I know she's been hurt. She misses Emmanuel. She was his "mother" while I was away and now that he's gone, she visits the school she used to walk to with him.

Walt: Any advice for other writers?

Riza: Walt, you have a saying in your articles and in your book about raising your standard of living using your talents. If people really understood what you are saying in those words, they would do what I have done. For writers, I would say keep writing as much as possible every day. It doesn't matter if it's only 50 words, 20 words. There's 24 hours in a day, find the time to practice your talent. It's possible. Decide what you want...and then dream it, and then do something every day to create that dream!

Take it from Riza, it doesn't matter whether it's a child's dream to be with his parents far away, or a dream to pursue your passion and do something unique in your own life. Dreams do come true.

To order copies of *The Boy Who Dreamed to Be With His Parents on Saipan* by Riza Oledan-Ramos, visit www.rizaramosbooks.com

Note: Fans and followers of the book, *Jamaican on Saipan*, may order a copy on jamaicanonsaipan.com.

Note: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that revealed the best things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

TOLERANCE

From Page 10

cent Siena College poll showed 63 percent of New Yorkers oppose the construction of the mosque at the site, but roughly the same number believe the project's developers have the constitutional right to build there.

We don't deny or diminish the pain some respondents surely felt when they acknowledged that right.

But they are on the right side of history. America's history.

In this country, we don't poll-test our constitutional liberties to determine when they do and don't apply.

The politicians and talking heads now fueling the anti-mosque firestorm have put their own prospects before this nation's principles. They should use this moment to teach, not to exploit.

(c) 2010, Chicago Tribune.

WITHOUT TIMELY FINANCIAL REPORT

House approves bill to suspend NMC allotments

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After debates on whether lawmakers will be accused of interfering with Northern Marianas College affairs, the House of Representatives passed yesterday a bill that will suspend NMC's quarterly allotments if it fails to submit a timely and detailed financial report to the governor and the Legislature.

Rep. Stanley Torres' House Bill 17-93 passed on a 10-8 vote.

The bill provides for improved financial oversight of NMC, which will maintain fiscal stability for students' well-being and accreditation reasons.

It also emphasizes that the Constitution mandates NMC, as part of the Executive Branch, to use the Office of the Attorney General for legal advice and related matters.

Torres (Ind-Saipan) said taxpayers have the right to know how NMC spends taxpayer dollars, among other things.

Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) separately said they support the idea of stricter accounting of NMC funds.

"Accountability is important," Dela Cruz said.

HB 17-93 mandates NMC

to submit to the governor and the Legislature within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year a detailed annual financial report that follows acceptable accounting practices.

"Failure to meet the 90-day deadline will result in suspension of quarterly allotments beginning Jan. 1 after the 90-day deadline expires on Dec. 31 of the preceding year, and the suspension will remain in effect until the report is submitted to the

Legislature," the bill says.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said passing the bill might again jeopardize NMC's accreditation, citing allegations of political interference in the affairs of the CNMI's lone public college.

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges placed NMC on a show-cause status on June 30. It gave the college until Oct. 15 to correct deficiencies, including addressing the issue of political interference.

Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) said there is no harm in ensuring that NMC's funding are well accounted for.

"We are not infringing upon NMC. What we're asking them is to provide us [reports on] financial matters so that if they need additional funding, we could see why they need it and then we could provide the funding," Palacios said, responding to Benavente's concerns.

Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said penalizing NMC by not releasing its quarterly allotments if it fails to timely submit a financial report is a "punitive" provision of the bill that he does not support.

He asked his colleagues to think about the consequences of this provision.

Benavente also pointed out that the bill didn't receive any

input from NMC.

Palacios reiterated that there's no harm in requiring NMC to be more fiscally responsible, and moved to end debate.

The House also passed a few weeks ago Torres's resolution calling on the U.S. Department of Education and top WASC officials to intervene in what Torres described as a damaging show-cause sanction imposed on NMC.

Torres said that accusations of meddling by the governor and the Legislature in NMC's affairs—as noted by WASC president Dr. Barbara Beno in her June 30 letter to NMC—are misleading and vindictive.

**BIRTHDAY BASH**

Jessemae Danielle Pagsinohin, at the back, center, poses with her classmates at Grace Christian Academy during the celebration of her 9th birthday at her school. At right is her mom, Marjorie.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to Vivian M. Lizama! We love you and wish you many more young birthdays to come. Greetings come from your husband, Kiki, Nini, Randy, the Malibu family, Batitang family, and Asin's mini mart.



Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DC&CA) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services is hereby announcing its intention to renew its State Plan for Fiscal Year 2011. In addition to the fourteen (14) assurances which the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands are mandated to comply with, in order to receive the grant, we are also required to report on the progress and accomplishments, problems and such that we have encountered within the last couple of years of the program. The LIHEAP Program generally provides cooling/utility/power assistance to eligible low-income households, the elderly, and the disabled.

We are notifying affected individuals, specifically those who are qualified low-income, elderly, and/or disabled, other interested individuals, and the general public who may be interested in participating in the development of this plan to please contact Mr. George S. Fitial or Mrs. Gregoria O. Sablan, the LIHEAP Coordinators at the DCCA LIHEAP's Office at telephone numbers 664-2568 or 664-2569. For more information and inquiry, please call the said telephone numbers, or visit our Office located at Capitol Hill House #1341.

Community meetings will be conducted on Rota, Tinian and Saipan as scheduled below. Any and all interested individuals are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

NUTISIAN PUBLIKU

I Dipåttamenton Community and Cultural Affairs (DC&CA), Progråman Inasisten Takpapa' Suetdo (LIHEAP) ya i kolaborasian yan i Dipattamenton Hinemlo' yan i Setbision Taotåo siha ginen este na ha anununsia i intension-ña na para u riueba iyom-niha State Plan para i Fiscal Year 2011. Komu ma'aomenta hålom gi Commonwealth i Sankattan Siha Na Islan Marianas pot para u makumple i otden para fanrisiben saläppé', man marekomenda ha lokkue para bai en fatinas repot pot Adelåntón i problema siha tåt komu gumiuhua gi progråma kuånto åños maloffan tåtte. i LIHEAP na progråma heneråtmente ha pribininiyi (cooling/kåndet) na klåsen ayudo para ayu siha na familia i man tak papa' suetdon-niha, i manåmok siha ,yan i man inutit.

In nutitisia ayu siha na petson i maninafefta espesiåtmente para ayo i mangkuålifikao na man åmok, yan/maninutit, yan pumalu siha yan indibiyuåt ni maninteresao, yan i publiku heneråt komu maninteresao manpattisiapao gi manplånum este na inadulånta para u ma'ågang si Siñot George S. Fitial pat Sinora Gregoria O. Sablan, LIHEAP Coordinators, gi DCCA ofisinan direktot gi este siha na numirun tilifon 664-2568 pat 664-2569.

Para u guaha siha ineungok publiku para u fan makondukta giya Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Todu ayu siha I maninteresao na petsona manmasosohyu para u ma'atende este siha na ineungok.

Para mås infotmasion pat finaisen, pot fabot ågang I tilifon siha ni mamensiona pat bisita I ofisinå-ta giya Capital Hill, Numiron I gima #1341.

ARONRONGOL TOULAP

Dipattamentool Lemelemil Sóóbw me Kko (Community me Cultural Affairs - DC&CA), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) re angang fengal me bwulsiyool alillis limilimal iligh me toreyaghil aramas, sângi milleel nge ekke arongaar toulap igha ekke mangiyy bwe ebwe féerú sefálii yaar State Plan reel ráagh ye 2011. E pwal aschuschu ngáli milikkewe seigh me faawu (14) ikka re akkuléew ngáli Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands reel igha ebwe mmwelil bweibwogh selaapi, nge e bwal allégh ngáli ghamam bwe aybwe fféer ripood reel meeta kka e ghatch, weires ikka e ghal yoor fitoowula ráagh mwir igha eyoorota progróoma yeel. Mille LIHEAP nge e ayoora alillis reel apatapat/dengkki me alillis ngaliir schookka eghi sossol abwossu, tuufey, me schookka re semwaay (disabled).

Aykke arongaar schookka re toolong lloal alillis yeel ikka eghi sossol abwossu, tuufey/ikka rese bwang, me ikka re mwuschal fengal me toulap ikka re tipali bwe rebwe toolong lloal progróoma yeel bwe rebwe ffaingiir Sóumwár George S. Fitial ngare Ilimwár Gregoria O. Sablan LIHEAP Coordinators reel numurool tilifoon kka 664-2569 ngare 664-2568 me ngáre tooto llól Bwulasiyo iye elo Capitol Hill house #1341.

Ebwe yoor arongorong ngáliir toulap wóól Luuta, Tchúlúyól me Seipél. Aramas ye e tipáli nge rekke tingór ngáliir bwe rebwe tooto llól iyéelágħ kkaal.

/s/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
Secretary, DCCA

Date:

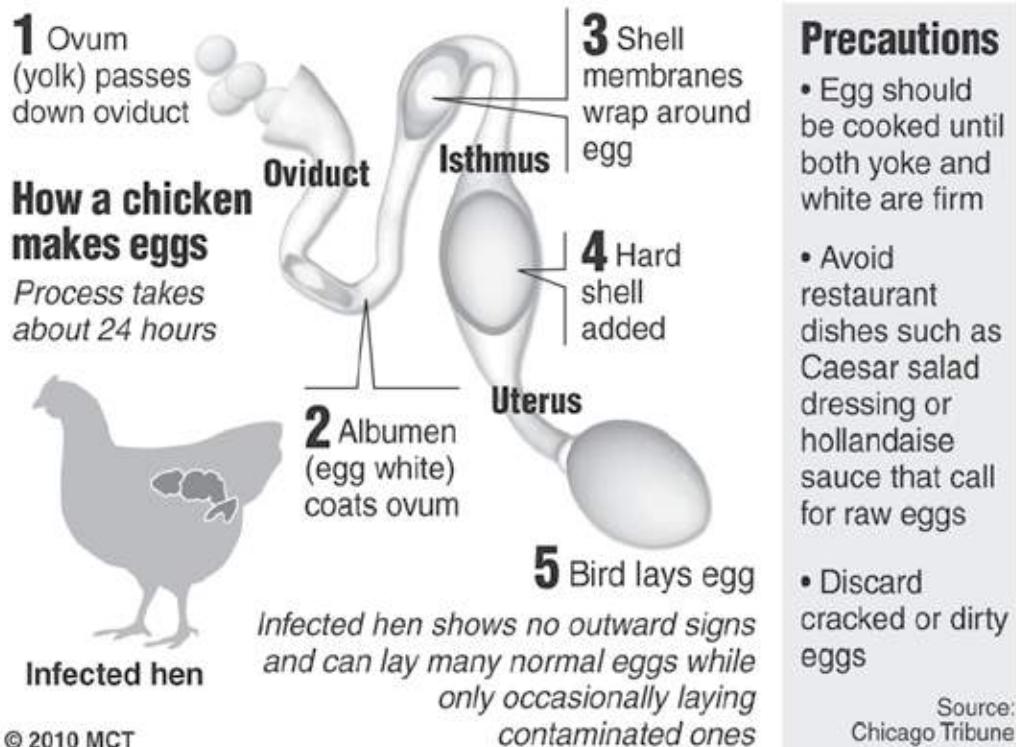
Venue	Scheduled Dates	Times
Tinian-Tinian Gymnasium	August 25, 2010	6:00pm
Rota-Rota Aging Center	August 30, 2010	6:00pm
Saipan-Multi Purpose Center	August 27, 2010	6:00pm
	August 28, 2010	9:00am

Business

No evidence that tainted eggs go beyond 2 farms

Salmonella and eggs

It was once believed that fecal matter on the outer shell was the main source of salmonella exposure; however, recent research shows much of the contamination occurs inside infected hens. The bacterium salmonella enteritidis infects the ovaries of egg-laying hens, which then pass the contamination to the eggs before the shell is formed.



WASHINGTON (AP)—Food and Drug Administration officials said Monday that there is no evidence a massive outbreak of salmonella in eggs has spread beyond two Iowa farms, though a team of investigators is still trying to figure out what caused it.

FDA officials said they do not expect the number of eggs recalled—550 million—to grow.

Dr. Jeff Farrar, FDA's associate commissioner for food protection, said 20 FDA investigators are at the two farms, Wright County Egg and Hillandale Farms, and could be there until next week. He said preliminary findings of the investigation should be available later this week.

Farrar said the chicks that came to the farms from a Minnesota hatchery appear to have been free of illness, so contamination most likely happened at the Iowa locations. The FDA is

looking at eight different sites on the farms where laying hens were reared as well as other locations, he said.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee said it is investigating the outbreak and sent letters to both farms asking for detailed information about company operations, communications with the government and what they knew and when. Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., head of the spending committee that oversees the Agriculture Department and the FDA, sent the two government agencies a letter asking what they knew.

The number of illnesses, which can be life-threatening, especially to those with weakened immune systems, is expected to increase. The Federal Centers for Disease Control has said there could be as many as 1,300 salmonella illnesses linked to the eggs. The CDC

said that for every case reported, there could be 30 or more unreported cases.

Dr. Christopher Braden, a CDC epidemiologist involved in the investigation, said there have been 40 more cases reported since last week, but it isn't immediately clear if all are linked to tainted eggs. Braden said so far the agency has not identified additional clusters of illness that would indicate the outbreak has spread beyond the two Iowa farms.

As her agency investigates the cause, FDA chief Margaret Hamburg said the FDA hasn't had enough authority to help prevent outbreaks.

Hamburg said Congress should pass legislation stalled in the Senate that would increase the frequency of inspections and give the agency authority to order a recall. Companies now have to issue such recalls voluntarily.

Johnson & Johnson recalls contact lenses overseas

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—Health giant Johnson & Johnson has issued its ninth recall of a consumer health product in a year, this time covering millions of 1 Day Acuvue contact lenses sold in Japan and two dozen other countries in Asia and Europe.

The affected contact lenses were mostly sold in Japan and none were sold in the U.S. or Canada, the company said.

Johnson & Johnson said Monday it had received a limited number of complaints from customers in Japan that they experienced an unusual stinging or pain when inserting the Acuvue TruEye Brand contact lenses.

J&J, based in New Brunswick, N.J., said it has not received any reports of customers

suffering damage to their vision.

"The risk of long-term health consequences is very unlikely," Gary Esterow, spokesman for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc., told The Associated Press.

He said the company estimates about 100,000 boxes were affected, with the boxes containing either 30 or 90 lenses each.

"In most instances, people put (a lens) in one eye, realized it was uncomfortable and took



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Guilty plea in NY in Disney insider trading scheme

NEW YORK (AP)—A man charged with selling secrets about finances at Walt Disney Co. pleaded guilty in federal court Monday to wire fraud charges and conspiracy to commit securities fraud. Yonni Sebag, a citizen of Morocco, and his girlfriend, former Disney employee Bonnie Hoxie, were arrested in California in May in the insider trading case filed in New York. "I agreed with others to commit securities and wire fraud," Sebag, 30, said in court, reading from a statement. "As part of this, I disclosed material and non-public information about the Walt Disney company to outside investors." The government said the pair arranged for anonymous letters to be sent in early March to dozens of hedge funds and other investment companies, many

of which were in Manhattan, offering to sell secrets. Most of the hedge funds and companies that received the offers notified the FBI.

Firm to pay \$52.4M in Minneapolis bridge collapse

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—After enduring countless surgeries and hours of court hearings, victims of the deadly 2007 Minneapolis Interstate 35W bridge collapse reached the end of their legal fight after an engineering firm agreed to pay \$52.4 million to settle scores of lawsuits. The settlement by San Francisco-based URS Corp.—agreed to more than a week ago but kept quiet until Monday—resolves the last major piece of litigation brought by victims. All told, the state and two of its contractors will have paid out \$100 million to the families of the 13 people who died and the 145 people who were

injured when the Mississippi River bridge broke apart during rush hour. The settlement averts a trial that had been set for next spring that could have opened URS to punitive damages.

Asian stock markets fall as economy worries linger

TOKYO (AP)—Asian stocks markets retreated Tuesday led by Japan as the yen climbed and investors anticipated more bad news from U.S. economic reports this week. The region's markets have spent most of August in the red as economic indicators from the U.S., China, Japan and elsewhere suggested global growth will slow in the second half of the year. This week investors are awaiting reports on home sales, durable goods orders, consumer confidence and revised second quarter GDP from the world's biggest economy.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works



2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW10-IFB-016

REMOVAL OF RAISED MEDIAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Proposed Removal of Raised Median, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after August 11, 2010 at DPW Technical Services Division 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. Prospective bidders claiming for US Citizen preference are required to submit P&S Form 100 (Revised 12/20/07) with their sealed bids.

A Pre-bid Conference is scheduled for August 30, 2010, 9:00 a.m. local time at the project site located at Tanapag in front of I-Mart Store.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW10-IFB-016". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time September 14, 2010. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, September 14, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 14, 2010, and must be received no later than September 23, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, September 28, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on September 17, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMICAC 70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Thirty (30) Working days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLON
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director of Procurement & Supply

Nation

An NYC icon cries foul over proposed rival nearby

NEW YORK (AP)—Look at Manhattan from afar, and the first thing you notice is the Empire State Building, spiking like a needle above the carpet of skyscrapers that coats Manhattan from tip to tip.

Now it's got some competition—a proposal for a nearby glass office tower that would rise almost as high and alter the iconic skyline.

The tower would spoil the famous view of the 102-story skyscraper for millions of tourists, the Empire State Building's owner, Anthony Malkin, testified Monday at a City Council hearing. It "defines New York," he said.

"We view this as an assault on New York City and its iconography," said Malkin, whose grandfather founded the Malkin Holdings company. It's "the end of the image of New York City that billions of people hold dear."

The City Council is to vote this week on whether to allow a developer to erect a 67-story tower that's only 34 feet lower than the 79-year-old Empire State Building, the city's tallest skyscraper.

The proposed tower's developer, David Greenbaum, says 15 Penn Plaza would provide critically needed and state-of-the-art office space to midtown Manhattan, creating at least 7,000 new jobs.

"The fact is, New York City's



In this Sept. 8, 2008 file photo, Madison Square Garden, lower center, and midtown Manhattan are shown in this aerial photo in New York, as the Empire State Building is seen at top.

skyline has never stopped changing, and I certainly hope it never will," testified Greenbaum, president of Vornado Realty Trust's New York chapter.

The council's Zoning and Franchises subcommittee planned to vote Tuesday on

whether to change rules. If they OK the plan, the final word would lie with the City Council—unless the mayor objected.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg supports the tower, which was approved by the City Planning Commission last month, spokes-

man Stu Loeser said late Monday.

The building would stand two blocks west of the Empire State Building on the site of the current Hotel Pennsylvania on Seventh Avenue, steps from Madison Square Garden and Penn Station.

"Wow! Wouldn't that be sad!" said Christa Huggins, a 35-year-old from Utah visiting the Empire State Building's 102nd-floor observatory.

Huggins said she "loves the view of New York all the way around, but especially in that direction. And this would block it."

Renderings of the proposed building—designed by Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects—portray a skyscraper shaped like a giant chisel atop a block. It tapers to a flat edge at the peak and is marked by a top-to-bottom groove on its face.

In his last-ditch effort to change the plans, Malkin—who also owns a stake in Vornado—appealed to subcommittee members to make 15 Penn Plaza no more than 825 feet high, about two-thirds of the originally proposed size. In addition, he asked that it be streamlined to minimally obscure the view of the western side of the Empire State Building.

But the idea of even an 825-foot tower next to the 1,250-foot-tall Art Deco symbol of New York—1,454 feet including its spire—disappointed some tourists.

Obama stem cell regulations temporarily blocked

WASHINGTON (AP)—A

federal judge on Monday temporarily blocked government rules expanding stem cell research, a blow to the Obama administration that could stall potentially lifesaving research.

The nonprofit group



Obama

Biomedical Research Institute and Theresa Deisher of AVM Biotechnology—were entitled to sue over the new guidelines, prompting U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth on Monday to reverse a decision he made in October when he dismissed the lawsuit.

Sherley and Deisher allege that the guidelines will result in increased competition for limited federal funding and will injure their ability to compete

successfully for National Institutes of Health stem cell research money.

Federal law explicitly forbids use of taxpayer dollars to destroy a human embryo—and culling stem cells from an embryo does destroy the embryo.

However, once created, these batches of stem cells, or lines, can reproduce indefinitely in lab dishes.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-10-2304

For: Happy Children In Paradise Campaign Saipan-da Backpacks

Closing Date: September 14, 2010

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply P.O. Box 10008, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by emailing the MVA at mva@mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLÁN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DCCA-154

BID SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 03, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FORTY-FIVE (45) SETS OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENTS FOR THE DCCA - CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE LOCATED AT THE SPRINGS PLAZA DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RITA CHONG-DELA CRUZ, DIRECTOR OF CRM AT TELEPHONE NOS. (670) 664-8300 NO LATER THAN AUGUST 27, 2010 CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ RITA CHONG-DELA CRUZ
DIRECTOR, CRM

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-OHS-146

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 07, 2010 TIME: 3:00 P.M.

"CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, AT LOWERBASE, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

ACROSS THE NATION

NY gov, archbishop to discuss mosque near WTC site

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—Gov. David Paterson said Monday he'll meet with Archbishop Timothy Dolan to discuss a mosque and Islamic community center planned two blocks from ground zero. The private meeting will be held Tuesday at the Democratic governor's Manhattan office. Paterson spokesman Morgan Hook wouldn't detail the agenda of the meeting, which will be closed to the press. But Paterson and Dolan have sought to offer an alternative site because of the tensions surrounding the current plan.

Trains halted on NY's huge Long Island Rail Road

NEW YORK (AP)—A fire in a Long Island Rail Road switching station knocked out train service for more than four hours Monday, leaving passengers on the nation's largest commuter rail line to contend with delays into the evening commute and beyond. The 11 a.m. fire happened near the Jamaica station in Queens, a major transfer point for commuters going to or from

Manhattan and Brooklyn and to various locations across Long Island. Limited service out of Penn Station in Manhattan resumed shortly after 3 p.m., and as the evening commute wore on, commuters appeared to be taking the disruptions in stride.

Ex-Marine convicted of killing pregnant colleague

GOLDSBORO, N.C. (AP)—A former Marine was convicted Monday of murder in the death of a pregnant colleague who accused him of rape, an allegation that threatened to derail a military career that had earned him promotions and praise. Cesar Laurean, 23, of Las Vegas, was found guilty of killing Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach, 20, of Vandalia, Ohio, in December 2007. The two were assigned to the same logistics unit at Camp Lejeune, the base in Jacksonville that is home to about 50,000 Marines. The trial was moved because of extensive pretrial publicity. The former Marine corporal was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for first-degree murder. The victim's mother, Mary Lauterbach, read a tearful statement before the judge

imposed the sentence. She told Laurean to remember the pain in his mother's face, and to think

of the daughter who will have to live with the shame of a father who is a killer.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DCCA-154

BID SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 03, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FORTY-FIVE (45) SETS OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENTS FOR THE DCCA - CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE LOCATED AT THE SPRINGS PLAZA DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RITA CHONG-DELA CRUZ, DIRECTOR OF CRM AT TELEPHONE NOS. (670) 664-8300 NO LATER THAN AUGUST 27, 2010 CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ RITA CHONG-DELA CRUZ
DIRECTOR, CRM

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-EMO-145

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"COMMUNICATIONS TOWER CONSULTING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE PACKET MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE EMO OFFICE, COMMUNICATIONS & MAINTENANCE SECTION, LOCATED ON CAPITOL HILL DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 27, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE EMO CONFERENCE ROOM.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO JOAQUIN (KILROY) I. GUERRERO, COMMUNICATIONS & MAINTENANCE MANAGER AT (670) 322-8001/2/3 OR BY FAX TO (670) 322-9500 OR E-MAIL TO jiguerro@cnmimo.gov NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2010 CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE RFP IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOAQUIN P. OMAR
DEPUTY SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR EMO/OHS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLÁN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Asia

MAYHEM IN MANILA:

9 killed on hijacked tour bus



AP
Police and SWAT members assault a tourist bus to rescue hostages at Manila's Rizal Park Monday Aug. 23, 2010 in Manila, Philippines.

JIM GOMEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—It looked like a hostage rescue in slow motion: Police creeping up on the bus with sledgehammers and smashing first one window, then another, then trying and failing to rip open the door.

When they finally got inside, authorities said, they found eight bodies: seven Hong Kong tourists and the ex-policeman who had seized the bus to demand his job back. Another tourist later died in the hospital, a Chinese Embassy spokesman said.

The bloody denouement to the 12-hour drama in the heart of the Philippine capital, witnessed live on TV, rattled a country already accustomed to kidnappings and violence blamed on Muslim rebels. It provoked China's condemnation and demands for an explanation, and an acknowledgment from Philippine President Benigno Aquino III that his police need more training and equipment.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistani president defends gov't flood response

SHADAD KOT, Pakistan (AP)—Pakistan's president defended the government's much-criticized response to the country's record-breaking flood crisis as emergency workers worked frantically to shore up a system of levees protecting two southern cities. The floods, which began nearly a month ago with hammering rains in the country's northwest, have affected more than 17 million people, a U.N. official said, warning that the crisis was outstripping relief efforts. About 1,500 people have died in the floods, most in the first few days, though the crisis

It was 10:15 a.m. Monday in Manila when Rolando Mendoza, 55 and married with three children, hitched a ride with the tourists as they visited historic sites in the city. He wore a camouflage uniform and carried an M16 rifle but didn't seem unusual in the heavily policed capital.

Then he announced that he was taking the travelers hostage to win back his job.

According to newspaper reports, the former senior inspector was among five officers who had been charged with robbery, extortion and grave threats after a Manila hotel chef filed a complaint alleging they falsely accused him of using drugs to extort money. Mendoza was fired last year but claimed he was innocent.

With the bus parked on a Manila park parade ground, Mendoza stuck leaflets on windows, handwritten in English, saying "big mistake to correct a big wrong decision," demanding media attention and threatening "big deal will

start after 3 p.m. today."

At first, matters proceeded peacefully. The hijacker freed nine hostages—three women and three children, all tourists, an elderly Hong Kong man, a Filipino photographer and his Filipino assistant—leaving 15 tourists and the Filipino driver on board. Police sealed the area and brought food for the hostages, along with fuel to keep the bus' air conditioning running in the 32-degree-Celsius (90 F) heat.

Then negotiations began to go awry. Mendoza demanded a signed promise from the ombudsman, which decided his case, that it would be reviewed, but its delivery was delayed for hours, in part by Manila's notorious traffic, and when it finally arrived he rejected it as insufficient.

Mayor Alfredo Lim, a former Manila police chief, said the regional police commander Leocadio Santiago also issued an order reinstating Mendoza "just accommodate his request, just to peacefully resolve this hostage situation."

continues to grow. President Asif Ali Zardari said that anger at the government in the coming months is inevitable given the scale of the disaster, comparing it to the anti-government sentiment generated by the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in the United States.

China may drop death penalty for economic crimes

BEIJING (AP)—China, which executes more people each year than any other country, said Monday it is considering dropping capital punishment for economic crimes. A draft amendment to the country's criminal code proposes cutting 13 "economy-related,

non-violent offenses" from the list of 68 crimes punishable by the death penalty, the official Xinhua New Agency said. It is not known when the draft will become law. Xinhua said it was submitted for a first reading to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. A draft usually has two or three readings before it is voted on. Joshua Rosenzweig, research manager for the U.S.-based human rights group Dui Hua Foundation, said the draft was welcome but was unlikely to reduce the number of executions in China if it becomes law because it targets crimes that seldom, if ever, have the death penalty applied to them.

World

Spanish hostages freed by al-Qaida-linked group

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso (AP)—Two Spanish aid workers kidnapped almost nine months ago by an al-Qaida affiliate were freed Monday in Mali after a multi-million-dollar ransom was reportedly paid—a sign of the terrorist group's growing sophistication in bank-rolling operations through kidnappings, experts said Monday.

Aid workers Roque Pascual and Albert Vilalta were abducted last November when their convoy of 4-by-4s was attacked by gunmen on a stretch

of road in Mauritania. They were whisked away to Mali, whose northern half is now one of the many stretches of remote desert where al-Qaida of Islamic Maghreb, or AQIM, has stretched its tentacles.

Late Monday afternoon, the pair stepped out of a helicopter that landed on the grounds of the presidential palace in Burkina Faso and were handed a cell phone. Reporters overheard them saying into the phone 'muchas gracias'—or many thanks.

Spanish newspaper *El Mundo* reported that Spain had paid euro3.8 million in ransom to secure the aid workers' release. The government refused to comment.

Originally based in Algeria, AQIM had limited reach until 2006, when the organization, then called the Salafist Group for Call and Combat, brokered a deal with al-Qaida's leadership in the Middle East, allowing them to become in essence a franchise of the larger terrorist network.

Supplies reach Chilean miners; now, the long wait

COPIAPO, Chile (AP)—Trapped nearly half a mile inside the earth and facing perhaps four months before rescue, 33 Chilean miners began getting food, water and oxygen from above ground Monday as rescue teams worked to gauge their state of mind and brace them for the long wait ahead.

Through a newly installed communications system, each of the men spoke and reported feeling hungry but well, except for one with a stomach prob-

lem, a Chilean official said. They requested toothbrushes.

It was a positive sign, and Chile's president said the nation was "crying with excitement and joy" after engineers broke through Sunday to the men's refuge. It had been 17 days since a landslide at the gold and copper mine caused a tunnel to collapse and entombed them more than 2,200 feet below ground.

Still, doctors and psychological experts were trying to

safeguard the very sanity of the miners in the months to come, and said they were implementing a plan that included keeping them informed and busy.

The miners reported that a shift foreman named Luis Urzua had assumed leadership of the trapped men.

"They need to understand what we know up here at the surface, that it will take many weeks for them to reach the light," Health Minister Jaime Manalich explained.

Mexico police recover 7 bodies from mines

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)—Authorities said Monday that seven bodies were pulled from mine shafts in central Mexico, while mounting drug violence forced U.S. diplomats to pull their kids out of a school in the northern city of Monterrey.

Police in the central state of Hidalgo recovered seven

bodies from two mines that were being used as clandestine graveyards by drug gangs, state Assistant Attorney General Carmen Archundia said.

Archundia said investigators were led to the mines by a group of suspects, including three police officers, arrested last week. The bodies were removed over the

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel faces difficult choice on settlement freeze

JERUSALEM (AP)—Even before peace talks with the Palestinians begin, Israel's government is fiercely debating a key concession: whether to extend a slowdown of West Bank settlement construction. Israeli officials confirmed Monday that the government is in quiet talks with the United States in search of a "creative" solution that will allow at least some limited construction to take place after Israel's 10-month moratorium ends on Sept. 26. The officials said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is well aware of the high stakes. Caving in to U.S. and Palestinian pressure to extend the freeze could bring down the conservative Israeli governing coalition. But re-

suming settlement construction could spell disaster for the fledgling peace talks.

Boats rescue 6 from plane that crashed off Bahamas

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—Rescuers in boats saved six people, including two children and a pregnant woman, who were found clinging to the wreckage of a small plane that crashed Monday in waters off the Bahamas. The twin-engine Piper Aztec went down about 3 miles (5 kilometers) from Grand Bahama Island after one of its engines failed, said Jamie Rose of the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association. The passengers were holding on to the floating tail section of the plane when Rose arrived in response to their distress call.

Some 200 women gang-raped near Congo UN base

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Rwandan and Congolese rebels gang-raped nearly 200 women and some baby boys over four days within miles of a U.N. peacekeepers' base in an eastern Congo mining district, an American aid worker and a Congolese doctor said Monday. Will F. Cragin of the International Medical Corps said aid and U.N. workers knew rebels had occupied Luvungi town and surrounding villages in eastern Congo the day after the attack began on July 30. More than three weeks later, the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Congo has issued no statement about the atrocities and said Monday it still is investigating.

Focus

Amid conflict, Kashmir man tries suicide 13 times

By RAVI NESSMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — The wounds of Kashmir's never-ending war are reflected in Arshid Malik's red, downcast eyes, in the tremble of the cigarette in his hand, in the self-inflicted knife scars gouged into his left forearm.

Tormented by unrelenting memories of death and violence, he tried 13 times to end his pain with suicide, sometimes slicing open his wrists, other times swallowing fistfuls of pills, he said.

"I was crying inside, but there was nobody I could talk to because everyone was grieving," the 36-year-old said.

More than two decades of brutal warfare between largely Muslim separatist insurgents and largely Hindu Indian troops in this Himalayan region have left Kashmiris exhausted, traumatized and broken.

The rate of suicide, once unthinkable in this Islamic society, has gone up 26-fold, from .5 per 100,000 before the insurgency to 13 per 100,000 now, according to Dr. Arshad Hussain, a Kashmiri psychiatrist. Drug abuse is epidemic. Depression, stress and mental illness are rampant.

"Directly or indirectly, everyone is suffering," said Dr. Muzaffer Khan, who runs a small rehab clinic in Srinagar, the main city in the part of Kashmir controlled by India.

One man turned to drugs after seeing an uncle and two cousins shot in front of him; another became an addict after he was kidnapped by a pro-government militia, Khan said. A third-grader wouldn't go back to school for two years after he watched gunmen break into his classroom, tie up his teacher and shoot him, another doctor said.

Villagers accustomed to late-night searches by security forces have developed "midnight knock syndrome" and are so jumpy they can't sleep without pills, Khan said.

For more than 60 years, the stunning Kashmir valley has been a flashpoint for tensions and wars between rivals India and Pakistan, which both control part of it and lay claim to all of it. Despite the fierce fighting, the tight-knit Muslim families of Kashmir formed a durable safety net.

That fell apart when a separatist insurgency erupted in 1989.

Children were caught in the cross-fire between Muslim separatists and the pro-Indian government militia. Others were forced into informing on their families. Parents disappeared in the middle of the night, many into mass graves where their bodies were never unidentified.

An estimated 68,000 people were killed. Nearly every one of the valley's 6 million people has been touched by violence. The conflict has created two lost generations, the teenagers of 1989 who saw their childhoods collapse into civil war, and the teenagers of today who never had a childhood at all.

About 19 percent of Kashmiris suffer from depression, said Dr. Mushtaq Margoob, a psychiatrist who has done extensive studies on trauma in Kashmir.



In this Aug. 4, 2010 file photo, Kashmiri protesters hit a burning government vehicle after they set it on fire during a protest at Bartha neighborhood in Srinagar, India. AP

Nearly 16 percent have post-traumatic stress disorder. In the U.S., less than 7 percent of adults suffer from depression and 3.5 percent have post-traumatic stress disorder, according to the National Institute of Mental Health.

"They see someone get killed in their presence, some friend, some relative, and they get stuck in that moment," Margoob said.

Kashmir's mental health network is overwhelmed. Before the conflict, Margoob and the other doctors at the psychiatric hospital in Srinagar saw 1,700 patients a year; now they see

There is a complete breakdown of the social fabric, said Dr. Wizar Bashir, who is haunted by the 9-year-old he was unable to revive after the boy hanged himself four months ago. Children that young are simply not supposed to think about suicide, he said.

Drug abuse has become widespread. Kashmir, a traditional center of mystical Sufi Islam, has a long history of opium and marijuana use in cultural practices. But now many are addicted to smoking heroin and hash, while others are taking codeine-laced cough syrup and prescription opiates from the rash of

with the pressure, he said.

When he met the militants again, they shot him three times in the arm and leg, sending him to the hospital for a month. Then a business setback sent him crashing into heroin addiction.

"Whenever I took the heroin, I never felt my wounds," he said. "I felt tremendous solace."

With the help of the clinic, Dar has cleaned himself up. But Kashmir, which has only 13 or 14 psychiatrists in addition to a Doctors Without Borders therapy team, would need 200 psychiatrists and thousands of therapists to deal with the trauma, doctors say.

Malik, a Muslim, was 15 when the fighting started. His school, run by Hindus who were largely seen as pro-government collaborators, shut down when the administrators fled. His Hindu friends ran as well.

Checkpoints choked off his Srinagar neighborhood. Gunfights broke out. Acquaintances got killed.

Then, on Jan. 20, 1990, Indian paramilitary troops fired on a peaceful demonstration crossing the nearby Gawkadal Bridge, killing more than 50 people and sending thousands fleeing in terror past the teenaged Malik.

"People were running. Blood was rushing out. They were falling in the gutter. People were aghast. Women were crying," he said.

Malik wasn't physically wounded, but he would never recover.

"There was a deeper kind of hurt that passed onto me," he said quietly, as his eyes welled up.

The ensuing years were filled with crackdowns on protesters, militant grenade attacks on government forces, and late-night police raids that forced

his family and their neighbors to sit in the winter cold for hours, "not knowing what was going to happen next, and fearing," he said.

By the time he got to college, the playful, talkative boy who loved cricket and badminton had shut down. People were so busy burying the dead, tending to the wounded and trying to survive that no one paid attention to his suffering.

"It used to come in huge flows that would sweep me off," he said. "I used to think, let me get this over with."

One day as he studied quietly in his room, he swallowed 100 tranquilizers. His family got his stomach pumped. Three months later, he took more pills. Later he turned to knives.

Some were serious attempts to end his pain; others were screams for attention, he said.

His family and friends were furious. How could he be so selfish when so many were dying?

His mother took him to a faith healer, who said he was cursed. His father burned his books, because he thought they were making it worse. Psychiatrists debated whether he was bipolar or borderline schizophrenic.

On the brink of being institutionalized, Malik decided he couldn't stand to cause his family any more pain. He suppressed his agony, got a job as a business executive, got married and had a son.

But he suffers from headaches and stomach problems, and his emotional issues, though under control, remain unresolved, he said.

"I hardly talk to anybody about this," he said. "Nobody would be interested anyway."

I was crying inside, but there was nobody I could talk to because everyone was grieving.

100,000, he said. A newly-opened psychiatric ward in a nearby hospital sees another 40,000.

One-third of Kashmiris questioned in a 2006 Doctors Without Borders survey said they had thought of killing themselves in the previous month. Most said they were nervous, tense or worried, were easily frightened and suffered from trembling hands. Nearly half had trouble sleeping and cried more than usual.

Children, inured to the violence, have become angry, aggressive and helpless, said Margoob. Worse, they don't fear death. It is this generation that picked up rocks in violent protests this summer, ignoring a crackdown by security forces that has killed more than 50 people.

unregulated pharmacies that sell even morphine without a prescription. Teens regularly sniff glue, corrective liquid and even cooking gas.

"It's rampant here, it's really rampant," said Bashir, who works at a small drug rehab center in Srinagar that has seven beds and a waiting list of 150 people.

Ahmed Dar, 25, came to the clinic last year broken in mind and body. He had two crushed legs from a bus accident and convulsions from heroin withdrawal.

When he was 17, he toyed with joining the insurgents for a month, but never picked up a gun. Then he went over to the army side and toyed with becoming an informant. He smoked hash and drank cough syrup to deal

Campus Life

CHICAGO (AP)—From continuing education and enrichment classes to graduate school, many of America's retirees are pursuing their interests at the college level.

It's a trend that is likely to grow as seniors' ranks swell with baby boomers, who by 2015 will represent some 35 percent of the U.S. population, looking to either acquire new job skills or simply enjoy new learning experiences. (Baby boomers are people born between 1946 and 1964)

Nearly six decades after graduating from college, Pete Shannon still can't get enough of lectures and homework assignments.

The 78-year-old Dallas retiree has taken dozens of classes at his local community college since he stopped working as a certified public accountant in 2004. This summer he studied music composition, and in the fall he plans to tackle philosophy and whatever else piques his interest.

Exams can be challenging, but one thing he doesn't sweat is tuition bills. In one of many such arrangements across the U.S., Dallas County residents age 65 and over get up to six hours' tuition free at Richland College every semester.

"It's a marvelous opportunity," Shannon says, calling the college his "candy store." "It's a wonderful place to go. The catalog is rich with all kinds of classes."

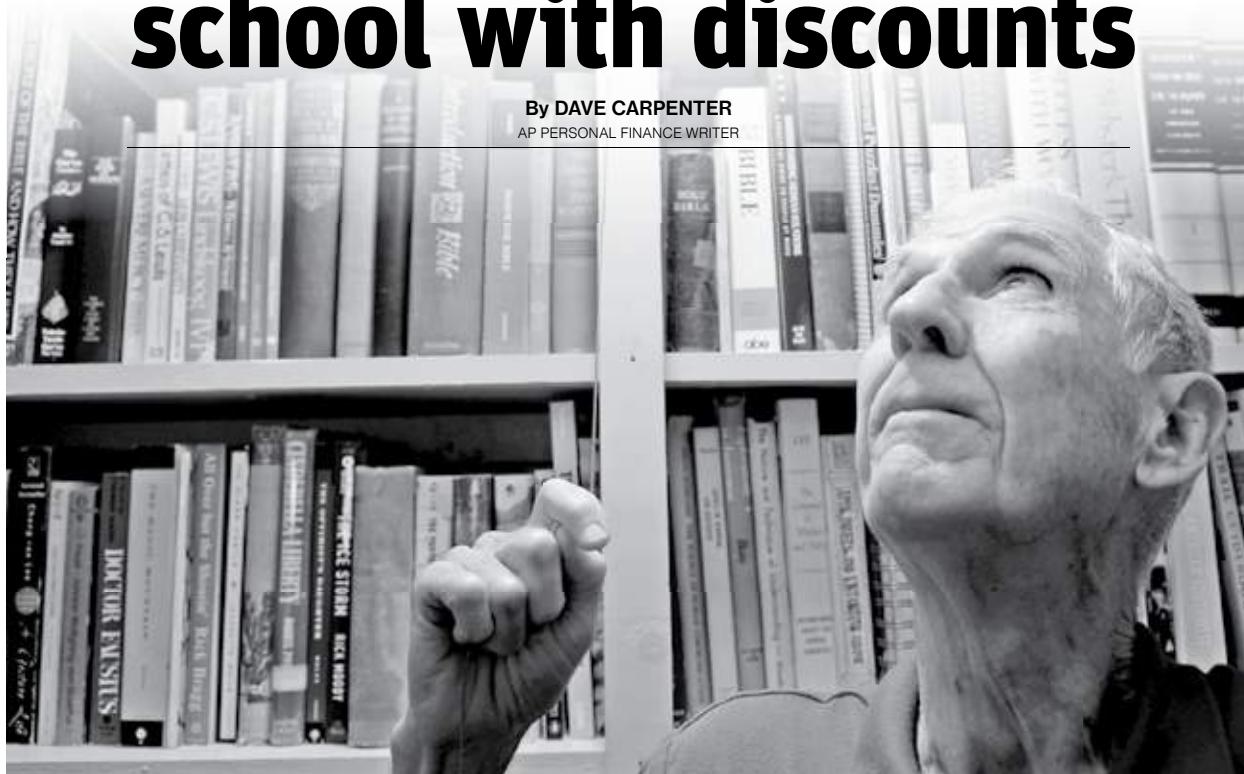
The prospect of having to pay for even moderately priced college classes might sound daunting to a retiree living on a fixed income. But numerous discounts, tuition waivers and other deals make it possible.

"There are more opportunities than in the past for senior citizens to take college classes and get help paying for them," says financial aid expert Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of FinAid.org and Fastweb.com.

Many community colleges and some four-year colleges allow seniors to audit classes for free and significantly reduce tuition for those who take them for credit. The financial arrangements vary widely by school and so do the age requirements—generally 60, 62, or 65 and over.

Retirees can head back to school with discounts

By DAVE CARPENTER
AP PERSONAL FINANCE WRITER



In this photo made Aug. 3, 2010, college student Pete Shannon, 78, is photographed in his Dallas home. Shannon is among a growing number of retirees who will be going back to school in the fall. **AP**

Twenty-one states and Washington, D.C., offer free tuition for senior citizens at some or all of their public colleges, according to FinAid.org. The student still must buy textbooks and may have to pay fees.

Two relatively new opportunities offer even more help.

The Senior Scholarships program, created last year as part of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, provides \$1,000 education awards for people 55 or older who volunteer 350 or more hours a year. The money may be used for the volunteer's own education or transferred to a child, foster child or grandchild.

And the American Opportunity tax credit can lower taxes for students of any age dollar-for-dollar for the first

\$2,000 spent on tuition, fees and course materials. The credit also applies to 25 percent of the second \$2,000. Unless extended, the temporary credit expires at year's end.

More seniors might head back to school if they knew about the deep discounts and freebies—or lived near colleges. As it is, education remains an untapped resource for most.

According to data released in June by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Americans from age 65 to 74 say they spend 6.77 hours on leisure and sports on a typical weekday, watch 3.58 hours of TV, spend 0.71 hour reading, 0.59 hour socializing and 0.03 hour on education. That's less than two minutes, compared to 0.46 hour or about 28 minutes for the population as a whole.

Shannon, who got his undergraduate degree in business economics from Rice University in 1953, is happy to stay in school for life. He says he takes college classes to get out of the house, at his wife's urging, and exercise his brain. The rest of him gets a workout, too, as he often bikes the 4 1/2 miles (6.4 kilometers) to campus.

A perfect 4.0 grade-point average through 114 credit hours shows he's not taking any mental shortcuts.

"I like writing the papers and doing the work," he says. "It's more complete than Googling a subject. And by the time you finish the semester, you've learned something."

Thanks to the tuition deals, he reckons he has spent no more than \$1,000 on education expenses since he retired.

But he'd dig a little deeper into his retirement savings if he had to.

"Frankly, I'd go to college even if I had to pay up to \$1,000 a year for it," he says. "I'd consider it part of my personal entertainment budget."

If retirement-age students decide to borrow to pay for college, loans don't have to be as burdensome as they might expect.

Federal student loans are discharged on the borrower's death. That means the retiree student's heirs won't get shortchanged because of those late-in-life classes in history and Chinese. The senior can also choose the repayment plan with the longest payback period, thus the lowest monthly payment.

When finances aren't an issue, most any educational experience is still possible in retirement. Anne Carter Harrison-Clark of Williamsburg, Virginia, is thriving as a 71-year-old student at the William & Mary Law School.

Learning more about the law is something she long aspired to do during a career as a lobbyist and public policy lecturer at Georgetown University, among other roles. Now she has both the time and money to do it, thanks to she and her husband Bob selling property near the top of the market six years ago.

Immersed in her third year of law classes, she is thrilled to be studying at the college where her great-great-grandfather, Benjamin Harrison V, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was educated. She doesn't at all mind being the only white-haired student or getting constantly asked why she's there.

The short answer to that is she wants to keep the brain cells going with new information and new contacts. And she doesn't know where this educational "journey" will take her, although she does intend to get her law degree at some point, on her own schedule.

"This whole (college) experience has been like dessert, like double fudge icing on a cake. Just a wonderful experience," says Harrison-Clark, who already has a Ph.D. in politics. "I highly encourage it."

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Student orientation at Kagman High

This is to inform all parents and guardians of Kagman High School students of the following activities:

Aug. 26, 2010, Thursday: Freshmen and sophomore orientation

- 1st session: 9:30am to 11am, 9th graders
- 2nd session: 1pm to 3pm, 10th graders

Aug. 27, 2010, Friday: Juniors and seniors orientation

- 1st session: 9:30am to 11am, 11th graders
- 2nd session: 1pm to 3pm, 12th graders

All students must attend. For any questions or concerns, call 237-3840. (PR)

SAES orientation schedule

San Antonio Elementary School would like to inform the public that its kindergarten orientation will be held on Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at 5pm in the SAES cafeteria. We would like to ask all the parents of Kindergarten students to be present to receive important information. Orientation for 1st-6th grade will be held on the following days and times:

Sept. 7, 2010:

- 4th Graders, 4-5pm
- 5th grader, 5-6pm

- 6th grader, 6-7pm

Sept. 8, 2010

- 1st grader, 4-5pm
- 2nd grader, 5-4pm
- 3rd grader, 6-7pm

ChaCha Ocean View student orientation

The ChaCha Ocean View Junior High School will be having an orientation for 6th grade students on Sept. 2, 2010, from 9:30 to 10:30am in the cafeteria. For 7th and 8th grade students, orientation will be on Sept. 3, 2010, from 9:30 to 10:30am in the cafeteria. Call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4400 if you have any question or comments. (PR)

Student orientation at Saipan Southern High

Saipan Southern High School will be holding a new student orientation for freshmen (9th grade) students on Aug. 26. Freshman only: 9am-11am morning session or 1pm-3pm afternoon session. All other new students (upper classmen grades 10th, 11th, 12th) will have their orientation on Aug. 27, 9am-11am morning session only.

Should you have questions call the SSHS principal directly at 670-237-3702 or the SSHS main office at 670-664-4000. (SSHS)

Kagman Elementary calendar of activities

This is to inform students, teachers, parents, and guardians of Kagman Elementary School of the following back-to-school events:

- Sept. 1: School Level Professional Development Day. All teachers report to school at 7:30am.
- Sept. 2, School Level Professional Development Day
- Sept. 3: General school orientation for parents and students at 1:30pm in the school cafeteria. Classroom orientation for parents and students at 2pm-4:30pm in the following grade level classes:
 - ◆ Kinder AM and PM parents/student classroom orientation in Room D101
 - ◆ 1st grade, parents/student classroom orientation in D102
 - ◆ 2nd grade, parents/student classroom orientation in E101
 - ◆ 3rd grade, parents/student classroom orientation in E112
 - ◆ 4th grade, parents/student classroom orientation in F108
 - ◆ 5th grade, parents/student classroom orientation in C103
- Sept. 7, first day of school for all students:
 - ◆ Kinder AM, 7:30-11am

- ◆ Kinder PM, 11:15am-2:15pm
- ◆ 1st-5th grade, 7:30am-2:15pm

IEP workshop for parents

The CNMI Public School System encourages all interested parents to attend a workshop on Individual Education Programs on Sept. 1, 2010, at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, Saipan from 8am to 1pm. This half-day session will address: the purpose of the IEP; information parents can contribute to the IEP; the process for determining necessary services; monitoring one's child's educational progress; and collaborating with one's child's team. The workshop will be presented by Carol Kosnitsky. (PSS)

Hopwood calendar of activities

- Aug. 30: Mandatory Student/Parent Orientation at 8am-10am at the stage area.
- Sept. 1: All HJHS teachers and staff must report to work.

HJHS school uniforms will be readily available at HJHS office, starting Aug. 19 to Sept. 7. Parents can begin placing orders starting Aug. 16 with Ruby Hocog. Students can use their old uniforms until such time that they buy the new blue and gold color uniform.

Sept. 7: First day of school.

HJHS school supplies lists will be available at the National Office Supply & Modern Stationary. When buying your child's basic school supplies, be sure to ask the cashier for the list. For more information, call Hopwood at 237-3421, 237-3395. (PR)

Workshop for PSS Special Education staff

The CNMI Public School System encourages all interested special education teachers, teacher aides, related service providers, as well as principals and other PSS administrators to attend this workshop on Individual Education Programs on Aug. 30-31, 2010, at the Saipan World Resort in Susupe, from 8am to 4:30pm. The workshop will be presented by Carol Kosnitsky. (PSS)

Deadline to apply for NMC president extended

The Northern Marianas College Presidential Search Committee has announced that it has extended the deadline for accepting applications for NMC president. The new deadline is Aug. 31, 2010. For more information about the presidential search or to view a copy of the vacancy announcement, please visit www.nmenet.edu. (NMC)

Life & Style

22-year-old Mexico woman crowned Miss Universe

By OSKAR GARCIA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

A 22-year-old Mexico woman won the Miss Universe pageant Monday night after donning a flowing red gown and telling an audience it's important to teach kids family values.

Jimena Navarrete of Guadalajara was first to answer an interview question Monday night and the last of 83 contestants standing in the headline-grabbing pageant on the Las Vegas Strip.

Her one-strap dress flowed behind her like a sheet as she walked during the evening gown competition. Earlier, she smiled in a violet bikini as she confidently strutted across the stage.

Asked by Olympic gold-medal figure skater Evan Lysacek how she felt about unsupervised Internet use, Navarrete said the Internet is important but parents need to be careful and watch over their kids.

"I do believe that Internet is an indispensable, necessary tool for the present time," she said through an interpreter. "We must be sure to teach them the values that we learned as a family."

First runner-up was Miss Jamaica Yendi Phillips, while second runner-up was Miss Australia Jesinta Campbell.

Navarrete—who's been modeling since she was 15—is Mexico's second Miss Universe. Lupita Jones of Mexico won the title in 1991. Navarrete

replaces Miss Universe 2009 Stefania Fernandez of Venezuela.

Navarrete's win thwarted Miss Venezuela Marelisa Gibson from giving the South American country a third consecutive victory. Neither Gibson nor Miss USA Rima Fakih made the top 15 finalists.

Navarrete was immediately congratulated on Twitter by Mexican President Felipe Calderon and his wife, Margarita Zavala.

"Congratulations to Jimena Navarrete for her deserved victory as Miss Universe," Calderon said. "This will serve Mexico, (and) our image as a country."

With fans in some 190 countries watching on television and keeping tabs on social networks, Navarrete and her competitors introduced themselves while wearing over-the-top national costumes. They then danced in silver and black dresses for the show's opening number before the top 15 finalists were announced. The final 15 walked in swimsuits while Cirque du Soleil musicians played Elvis Presley songs including "Viva Las Vegas." The last 10 impressed in their gowns while John Legend and the Roots played a soulful medley including "Save Room."

By the end of the show, seven of the top 10 trending topics on Twitter had to do with the pageant, its contestants, its judges or owner Donald Trump. The

mogul co-owns the pageant with TV network NBC.

The show was without any major gaffes, except for Miss Philippines' answer when asked what her biggest mistake in life was and how she fixed it.

"In my 22 years of existence, I can say there is nothing major," Venus Raj said.

Before the pageant, Raj was rated among the top contestants in an online poll on the pageant's website. She finished in fifth place.

Navarrete won a package of prizes including an undisclosed salary, a luxury New York apartment with living expenses, a one-year scholarship to the New York Film Academy with housing after her reign, plus jewelry, clothes and shoes fit for a beauty champion.

Campbell won the Miss Congeniality Universe award. Miss Thailand Fonthip Watcharatrakul won Miss Photogenic Universe and a second award for having the best national costume.

Fakih, a 24-year-old Lebanese immigrant from Dearborn, Mich., spurred celebrations among Arab-Americans when she won Miss USA. Pageant records aren't detailed enough to show whether Fakih is the first Arab-American, Muslim or immigrant to win Miss USA.

Miss USA has not been named Miss Universe since Brook Lee won the title in 1997.



Miss Mexico Jimena Navarrete is crowned Miss Universe 2010 by Stefania Fernandez during the Miss Universe pageant, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010 in Las Vegas. AP



Palin paramour files paperwork to run for office

In this Aug. 8, 2010 file photo, Levi Johnston arrives at the Teen Choice Awards in Universal City, Calif.

AP

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Levi Johnston, the father of former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's grandson, has filed papers to run for office in his hometown of Wasilla, Alaska, next year.

Johnston filed his letter of intent Friday with the Alaska Public Offices Commission, a first step needed to begin campaigning.

The letter doesn't specify an office though Johnston's manager, Tank Jones, has said Johnston's interested in a run for mayor or City Council. He did not immediately return a message Monday.

Wasilla is where Palin got her political start, first as a council member and then as mayor.

Earlier this month, Jones confirmed that Johnston planned to run for office as part of a reality TV show.

Johnston and Palin's daughter Bristol were thrust into the national spotlight in 2008, when Palin was making her vice presidential run and the two were unwed expectant teens.

Johnston, 20, has had a prickly relationship with the Palin family since the birth of son Tripp and has sought to capitalize on his notoriety, posing for Playgirl and hitting the Hollywood circuit. He and Bristol Palin recently broke off a short-lived engagement.

The filing was first reported by TMZ.com.

Billionaire picks downtown LA site for art museum

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Billionaire Eli Broad said Monday he had chosen an expanding downtown cultural district for a new museum to showcase his collection of art that includes works by Salvador Dali and Joan Miro.

The developer-turned-philanthropist made his announcement minutes after a committee of state and local officials voted to let him lease county-owned land along Grand Avenue for the structure that could cost as much as \$100 million.

The 35,000 square feet of gallery space will feature paintings, sculptures and photos from Broad's 2,000-piece collection, which includes works not currently on permanent public display.

"There's lots of art to go around," Broad said after the vote by the Grand Avenue Authority. "We want to show our art to the widest possible audience."

The Broad Art Foundation will also coordinate loans of artwork to other museums from the planned venue totaling 120,000 square feet.

Under the deal for the land, the foundation will pay \$7.7 million over the course of a 99-year-lease for the 2.5-acre parcel that was originally set aside as part of a stalled \$3 billion shopping, hotel and condo complex known as the Grand Avenue project.

The deal also obliges 76-year-old Broad, whose net worth was pegged

this year by Forbes magazine at \$5.7 billion, to finance construction of the museum and contribute \$200 million toward its operation.

Broad said the museum's chief architect will be New York-based Diller, Scofidio & Renfro, which has designed the renovation and expansion of Lincoln Center in New York City and the new Institute of Contemporary Art on the Boston harbor.

The design of the Los Angeles museum was chosen over one submitted by the practice of Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas in consultation with Frank Gehry, who designed the adjacent Walt Disney Concert Hall and is master planner of the Grand Avenue project, Broad spokeswoman Karen Denne said.

"It's going to be a great piece of architecture that doesn't clash with Disney Hall but also is not going to be totally anonymous," Broad said.

The design will be unveiled in October, with construction possibly finished by the end of 2012, he said.

Broad had considered a site in Santa Monica. He said he didn't initially give serious consideration to the downtown location because it had been targeted for the Grand Avenue project.

Broad said he started negotiating with project developer Related Cos. then launched the official process for approval at the urging of Villaraigosa.

"As a prominent anchor to a growing cultural district, the museum will serve as both an economic and cultural engine," the mayor said in a statement.

Broad, who made his billions as co-founder of developer KB Home and through the sale of insurer SunAmerica, has already done much to advance the arts on Grand Avenue.

He was founding chairman of the Arata Isozaki-designed Museum of Contemporary Art in 1979, one of the earliest cultural venues to join the Music Center performing arts complex among the high-rises coming to dominate Bunker Hill.

Broad was also instrumental in helping fund Gehry's Disney Hall, a sleek Los Angeles Unified School District arts campus by Viennese designer Wolf Prix and Our Lady of Angels Cathedral by Spanish architect Rafael Moneo. He also helped select Gehry and Prix for the projects.

Off Grand Avenue, he made a \$60 million gift to build and support the Renzo Piano-designed Broad Contemporary Art Museum on the Los Angeles County Museum of Art campus in West Los Angeles, where some of the contemporary art collection already resides.

Other institutions bearing his name include the Eli and Edythe Broad Center at the University of California, Los Angeles, to which he donated \$23.2 million.

Egypt deputy minister detained over van Gogh theft

By MAGGIE MICHAEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's top prosecutor on Monday ordered the detention of the deputy culture minister for four days in connection with the theft of a Vincent van Gogh painting, state media reported.

Thieves made off with the canvas, known by the titles of "Poppy Flowers" and "Vase with Flowers," on Saturday from the Mahmoud Khalil Museum in Cairo. None of the museum's alarms and only seven of 43 surveillance cameras were working at the time of the robbery.

The prosecutor general ordered the detention of Deputy Culture Minister Mohsen Shalaan and four of the museum's security guards while they are investigated on suspicion of neglect and professional delinquency, according to the state-run Middle East News Agency.

No charges have been filed.

The prosecutor, Abdel-Meguid Mahmoud, implicated the deputy minister in the security lapses that he said led to the theft because he has an office in the museum and is in charge of its financial and administrative affairs.

Shalaan "neglected his duties and didn't improve lax security measures by replacing the broken cameras and alarms," MENA quoted the prosecutor as saying.

The guards were accused of



This undated photo made available Sunday, Aug. 22, 2010 shows a Vincent van Gogh painting known by the titles of "Poppy Flowers" and "Vase with Flowers," which was stolen on Saturday from the Mahmoud Khalil Museum in Cairo, Egypt.

neglect for not checking museum visitors.

Ten other people were questioned and released Sunday but remain under investigation on similar accusations.

The van Gogh painting is worth an estimated \$50 million.

This is the second time the painting by the Dutch postimpressionist has been stolen from the museum. Thieves first made off with the canvas in 1978. Authorities recovered it two years later at an undisclosed location in Kuwait.

The 12-inch-by-12-inch (30-centimeter-by-30-centimeter) canvas, believed to have been painted in 1887, resembles a flower scene by the French artist Adolphe Monticelli, whose work deeply affected van Gogh. The Monticelli painting also is part of the Khalil collection.

The prosecutor said his office had warned Egypt's museums last year to implement stricter security controls after nine paintings were stolen from another Cairo institute, the Mohammed Ali Museum. Similar security lapses were to blame in that theft.

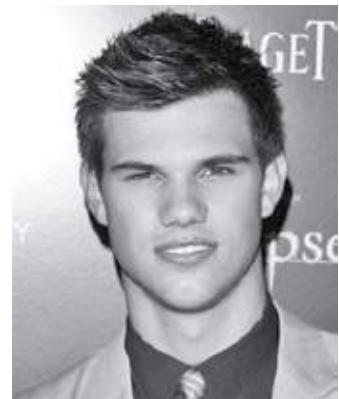
Shalaan, the deputy minister, said he also warned in 2007 that cameras and alarms at the Mahmoud Khalil Museum were not working but that Culture Minister Farouk Hosni did not come through with resources to replace the equipment.

"I am not going to be a scapegoat for the minister," he was quoted as saying by the weekly Al-Youm Al-Sabaa newspaper.

He said he would present evidence that the minister was aware of the failing security at the museum, according to the paper's online edition.

Hosni has instructed ministry officials to set up what he described as a central control room to monitor video from surveillance cameras in all Egyptian museums and link alarms into a single network, MENA reported.

The control room will be set up inside Cairo's historic Citadel, the fortress built by Saladin. Committees will also tour museums across the country to review security measures.



In this June 28, 2010 photo, Actor Taylor Lautner attends the Cinema Society premiere of "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse" in New York.

Taylor Lautner sues over RV planned for movie sets

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Taylor Lautner is suing an RV dealership he claims didn't deliver a customized coach in time for use on his current movie shoot.

The star of the "Twilight" series sued the Irvine, Calif., dealership of McMahon's RV in Los Angeles on Monday. The lawsuit claims McMahon's missed a June deadline to deliver a \$300,000 customized 2006 Affinity Country Coach RV.

The lawsuit doesn't specify what special features the 18-year-old wanted for the RV, which would serve as his dressing room. He is currently filming the action-thriller "Abduction" and is reprising his role as Jacob Black in the two-part "Twilight" finale, "Breaking Dawn."

A phone message left at the McMahon's dealership Monday was not immediately returned.



In this July 20, 2010 file photo, Lindsay Lohan is shown in court in Beverly Hills, Calif., where she was taken into custody to serve a jail sentence for probation violation.

Mystery ruling coming in Lindsay Lohan case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A court official says the judge handling Lindsay Lohan's criminal case plans to issue an unspecified ruling in the case a day before her attorneys are due in court.

Los Angeles Superior Court spokesman Allan Parachini said Monday that Judge Elden Fox plans to issue the ruling Tuesday afternoon. Parachini said he had no additional details.

Lohan is currently serving a 90-day sentence in a rehabilitation program, but there have been unconfirmed reports that she will be released early.

Lohan spent 14 days in jail and was taken to rehab on Aug. 2 after another judge determined she violated her probation in a 2007 drug case.

A prosecutor and Lohan's attorney are due in court for a hearing Wednesday.



In this Monday, Aug. 23, 2010 photo provided by Unite Here Local 11, Imane Boudlal is shown wearing a hat-and-bonnet that Disney suggested she wear after refusing to let her wear a Muslim head scarf at work, at Unite Here Local 11 in Anaheim, Calif.

Fantasia denies allegations she is a homewrecker

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
AP MUSIC WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Fantasia said she was so upset about allegations that she broke up a marriage she was ready to die.

"I felt like if that would have happened, I would have been fine with that—I would have been OK with that," she said in an interview with The Associated Press on Monday afternoon, nearly two weeks after she attempted suicide.

The former "American Idol"

champ took a mixture of aspirin and sleeping pills after she was named in divorce papers as the cause of a couple's breakup. The 26-year-old said she was so devastated and upset about lies being spread about her that she couldn't function anymore.

"I had never experienced that—I was very numb," she said.

As for the accusations that she knowingly dated Antwaun

Cook even though he was married with kids, she said he was already separated when they started dating.

"I don't think I would stand for going in and breaking up somebody's home."

While she called Cook a good guy and a "great friend," she said they are no longer together, and haven't been for a while.

Fantasia shares some of her story on VH1's "Behind the Music,"



Fantasia

Hostess won't wear Disney's head scarf alternative

ANAHEIM, California (AP)—A woman who accused the Disney Co. of discrimination for refusing to let her wear a Muslim head scarf at work, at Unite Here Local 11 in Anaheim, Calif.

designed hat instead.

Imane Boudlal, who's a restaurant hostess at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, says Disney's suggested hat-and-bonnet is embarrassing and makes a joke of

her religion. She has gone home without pay seven times rather than remove her hijab or accept jobs away from customers.

Disney spokeswoman Suzi Brown says the company believes

the head covering accommodates both Boudlal's beliefs and Disney costuming guidelines.

Last week, she filed a complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Lady Gaga is latest 'Twitter queen'

HEW YORK (AP)—Lady Gaga has surpassed Britney Spears as the most followed person on Twitter—for now.

She has more than 5.7 million followers. She overtook Spears over the weekend and posted a video late Saturday on YouTube.

Gaga called her fans her "little monsters" as she thanked them for beginning "my reign as Twitter queen."

Spears, Ashton Kutcher, Ellen DeGeneres and an account run by President Barack Obama's political organization, Organizing for America, all have more than 5 million followers.

The most followed title often shifts rapidly, and fans frequently organize to boost their favorite's tally.

In this Jan. 20, 2010 file photo, singer Lady Gaga performs in concert at Radio City Music Hall in New York. **AP**



Appeals court: Perry didn't copy 'Mad Black Woman'

HOUSTON (AP)—A federal appeals court has upheld a jury's verdict that actor-screenwriter Tyler Perry didn't steal material for his 2005 movie "Diary of a Mad Black Woman."

Two years ago, jurors in East Texas found actress and writer Donna West failed to support her

copyright infringement claim.

West appealed the verdict. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Monday there was nothing improper in the way the trial was conducted.

West wrote a play titled "Fantasy of a Black Woman" that was performed three times in

1991 in Dallas. She claimed Perry could have seen the script when he presented his plays at the Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters in 1998.

Perry testified his screenplay was an original work. The \$5 million film grossed more than \$50 million.

'Howdy Doody Show' writer Edward Kean dies at 85

WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—

Edward Kean, primary writer of the "Howdy Doody Show" and who is credited with creating the exclamation, "kowabunga," has died at the age of 85, family friend Del Reddy said.

Kean also penned the theme song to which millions of American children sang along each week during the show's run on NBC from 1947 to 1960.

Kean died Aug. 13 at a nursing care facility in the Detroit suburb of West Bloomfield Township from complications of emphysema, Reddy said.

The New York City native wrote the song "It's Howdy Doody Time," which was sung during the show's opening. He had a major role in developing the characters and their personalities, and created the exclamation, "kowabunga," made popular by one of the show's characters and borrowed by Bart Simpson, the animated problem child on the long-running comedy "The Simpsons."

"He influenced a whole generation of kids through his writing," Reddy said. "He was a prolific writer. He would take his typewriter, even on the road."

Woman's longtime affair now brings her only pain

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I met "Guy" seven years ago and fell deeply in love. We dated for a couple of months, but one day with no warning he broke up with me on my voicemail.

Three weeks after the breakup, Guy came to my home. It was the week of his wedding, which he never bothered to mention. I later heard he had been married from a mutual friend. I knew Guy had been seeing someone, but he never indicated that it was serious.

We have been having an affair ever since our breakup. Because I love him, I can't say no to him. He'll go through periods where he says he's getting divorced. He even told my mom that. Then he calls and says they're going to work it out. I never pushed. I want him to be happy—even if it's not with me—and I want no part in causing a divorce. Every time I start to get over Guy, he comes around again. It's like he has radar.

The last time we slept together, a month ago, he told me he thought he had married the wrong woman. The next day, he admitted he has too much at stake to make a change. I am in so much pain. I don't want to be his mistress. If I tell his wife, Guy will never speak to me again. Should I tell her?



Dear Abby

RUNNER-UP IN CHEYENNE

DEAR RUNNER-UP: Whether you're willing to admit it to yourself or not, by continuing the affair with Guy you HAVE been trying to sabotage his marriage. Your first clue that Guy wasn't much of a man should have been when he used voicemail to "break up" seven years ago. He has now made it plain that he isn't going to leave his wife.

Haven't you recognized by now that he is concerned only with his own gratification and doesn't care who is hurt by his actions? This Guy will waste as much of your time as you are willing to give. For your own sake, call a halt and get your head straight. You won't stop hurting until you draw the line.

DEAR ABBY: Last year I decided to pursue a career as a foreign diplomat. My wife and I weighed the pros and cons and concluded that the opportunity was worth the separation from family and friends. I'm proud that I'll be able to provide the kind of life for my family that we have always wanted, and I'm set to begin training soon.

We have begun spreading the news, and most of our relatives and friends share our excitement. My wife's sister, "Lucinda," however, is furious. Her objections started with snide little "jabs" but have grown into a full-blown assault. She is accusing me of ruining her life and threatening to cut off all contact unless we reconsider. My wife is distraught from the badgering and I'm afraid their relationship is on the verge of collapse.

Should I bow to Lucinda's threats or follow our dream and risk being disowned by a member of the family? I'm afraid I have inadvertently ruined my wife's relationship with her sister.

SECOND THOUGHTS IN MINNESOTA

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: Unless you want the remainder of your marriage and your career to be dictated by your wife's sister, do not back down. Lucinda appears to be an insecure, and possibly troubled, woman who is trying to control you and your wife through emotional blackmail. You have a bright—not to mention fascinating—future ahead of you. So follow your chosen path and do not allow your sister-in-law to continue to interfere. To fold now would only be the beginning of your problems.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by *Dear Abby*." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set*, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Wayne Newton worries about future of young stars

WASHINGTON (AP)—Singer Wayne Newton is worried that fame is coming too easily to today's young stars. In an interview in Washington, Newton says it is frightening to think that one day someone can be totally unheard of and the next they could be on the lips of practically everybody in the world. He says that what they do not realize is that fame goes as quickly as it comes. He says young stars like Justin Bieber and Miley Cyrus lack the time to hone their craft. Newton says stars need time to learn that every decision they make will either hamper or endear them for the rest of their lives. He says that he is concerned because when the industry is finished with a star, it just looks for the next one.

'True Blood' stars to present at Emmys

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Anna Paquin and Stephen Moyer will be spending part of their honeymoon at the Emmys. The newlywed "True Blood" stars, who were married last Saturday in Malibu, California, have been added to the list of presenters at next Sunday's 62nd annual prime-time Emmy ceremony, along with "True Blood" co-star Alexander Skarsgård. Previously announced presenters include

Stephen Colbert, Tina Fey and Ricky Gervais. On the HBO series, 28-year-old Paquin stars as Sookie Stackhouse, a mostly human waitress who falls for vampire Bill Compton, a Confederate veteran turned into a bloodsucker played by 40-year-old Moyer. Paquin is no stranger to award shows. The "X-Men" star won a supporting-actress Academy Award at age 11 for 1993's "The Piano."

Vaclav Havel finishes shooting film

PRAGUE, Czech Republic (AP)—Former President Vaclav Havel has finished shooting his first and probably last film. Havel spokeswoman Ivana Reichlova says the former dissident playwright and post-communist Czechoslovakia's first president finished on-location camera work on the film on Saturday. The film is a cinematic version of "Leaving," a Havel play that was staged two years ago. His actress wife, Dagmar, plays the leading female role. The daily *Mlada Fronta Dnes* on Monday quoted Havel as saying the film will probably also be his last one.

Jennifer Aniston to guest on 'Cougar Town'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jennifer Aniston will pay a visit to old "friend" Courteney Cox on the season debut of the TV show

"Cougar Town" next month. The ABC network said Monday that Aniston will portray a therapist who is being seen by Cox's character. It's a one-episode visit, scheduled for Sept. 22. The two actresses starred for many years on NBC's "Friends." Cox is in her second season of "Cougar Town," where she plays a character hungry for younger men. Aniston is promoting her new movie, "The Switch."

Martin Short's wife dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Martin Short's wife, Nancy Dolman, has died. She was 58. Short's manager, Marc Gurvitz, said Monday that Short's wife of 30 years had died but provided no cause of death or any additional details. Short, best known for his comedic roles on "Saturday Night Live" and in the "Father of the Bride" franchise, married Dolman in 1980 after the pair met while working together in a production of "Godspell." They have three children: Katherine, 27, Oliver, 24, and Henry, 20.

'Piranha 3D' sequel set

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Prehistoric killer fish will get another chance to sink their teeth into audiences in an upcoming sequel to "Piranha 3D." Dimension Films, which released the over-the-top thriller this past weekend, announced Monday that part two is

in the works. "Piranha 3D" didn't have a great opening, debuting in sixth place at the box office with \$10.1 million. But it got an overwhelmingly strong critical reception, earning 81 percent positive reviews on the Rotten Tomatoes website. The movie follows a pack of piranha unleashed on spring breakers partying on an Arizona lake. Mass carnage ensues. Elisabeth Shue, Ving Rhames and Jerry O'Connell star.

Britons up in arms over claims of TV talent fakery

LONDON (AP)—Britons are up in arms over online claims that a popular TV talent competition has been electronically tweaking contestants' voices to make them sound in tune. Fans of Britain's "X Factor" show took to the Internet over the weekend to claim that pitch-correction software had been used to smooth contestants' performances. The hugely popular show's producers acknowledged that post-production had taken place to correct for the interplay of the microphones used during filming. The X Factor is a fixture of Britain's entertainment calendar and is judged by veteran talent show curmudgeon Simon Cowell, among others. His face was pasted across the front of Britain's Daily Mirror on Monday, under the caption: "X Faker."

Tiger Woods, wife officially divorced

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

PGA TOUR
Divorced. Single dad. Golf game still to be determined. And so, after nine months of turmoil over his extramarital affairs, now begins the next chapter in the life and times of Tiger Woods. In a hearing that lasted no more than 10 minutes in a Florida judge's chambers, Woods and his Swedish-born wife officially divorced Monday.

"We are sad that our marriage is over and we wish each other the very best for the future," Woods and Elin Nordegren said in a joint statement released by their lawyers.

The divorce was granted shortly after 2 p.m. in Bay County Circuit Court in Panama City, Fla., about 375 miles from their Isleworth home outside Orlando, where Woods drove his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree on Thanksgiving night. That set off shocking revelations that sports' biggest star had been cheating on his wife through multiple affairs.

Woods' life and golf game have been in disarray ever since.

He and Nordegren were married Oct. 5, 2004, in Barbados and have a 3-year-old daughter, Sam, and an 18-month-old son, Charlie.

Terms of the divorce—such as how much it will cost Woods—were not disclosed. They said only that they will "share parenting" of their two children.

Nordegren, who for years tried to stay in the background, was captured on video by celebrity websites eating lunch or picking up her daughter from school.

"We love Elin, and we are so proud of the grace and strength she has shown during this difficult time," her father, Thomas Nordegren, a talk show host at national broadcaster Swedish Radio, told The Associated Press. "We know that she will come out of this even stronger and has a bright future in front of her."

The divorce was finalized by Bay County Circuit Judge Judy Pittman-Biebel during a 10-minute hearing in a



AP
In this Aug. 20, 2006, file photo, Tiger Woods celebrates with wife Elin Nordegren after winning the 88th PGA Championship golf tournament at Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Ill.

conference room in her chambers, according to Biebel's judicial assistant, Kim Gibson. Woods and Nordegren were present, along with their lawyers, Gibson said.

"I don't comment on active cases," Thomas J. Sasser, Woods' divorce attorney, said. Asked why they chose to file in Panama City, Sasser said it was a joint decision by the lawyers.

Nordegren's attorneys—including her twin sister, London-based Josefina Lonnborg—referred all questions to the statement.

Woods' agent, Mark Steinberg, declined to comment when asked if the couple had a prenuptial agreement or terms of the settlement. "We're not commenting beyond what was in the release," he said.

Nordegren's mother, Barbro Holmberg, also declined to comment.

Nordegren, who once worked as a nanny for Swedish golfer Jesper Parnevik, asked to have her maiden name restored as Elin Maria Perinna Nordegren.

The sordid sex scandal cost Woods three major corporate sponsors—Accenture, AT&T and Gatorade—worth millions of dollars, and he lost his stature as the gold standard in sports endorsements. A month after the scandal became public, Woods spent two months in therapy at a Mississippi clinic with hopes of saving his marriage.

"While we are no longer married, we are the parents of two wonderful children and their happiness has been, and will always be, of paramount importance to both of us," they said in the statement. "The weeks and months ahead will not be easy for them as we adjust to a new family

Haynesworth, who failed a conditioning test and missed the first nine days of training camp practice, said Saturday he shouldn't have been playing with the reserves during the Ravens game.

"We're going to practice him as much as we can and get him ready to play," Shanahan said Monday. "Hopefully he doesn't miss any practices, and when he plays he plays well."

Defensive coordinator Jim Haslett, who has worked closely with Haynesworth amid the player-head coach feud, said Haynesworth is "in the mix" to become a starter before the regular season opener Sept. 12.

Haynesworth did not talk to reporters Monday, but was back at practice for the first time in a week.

Shanahan has maintained that the two-time All-Pro tackle must practice regularly to play and work his way back to a starting role. He has made Haynesworth practice and play with the backups.

situation, which is why our privacy must be a principal concern."

Some of the court documents indicated that Woods had to focus on his marital woes as well as his golf this summer.

He completed a four-hour course on "Parent Education and Family Stabilization" on July 10, the day before he left to play the British Open. He had won the previous two times at St. Andrews by a combined 13 shots, but this time finished 13 shots behind in a tie for 23rd.

The couple signed a marital settlement agreement on July 3 and July 4, the weekend of the AT&T National outside Philadelphia, where Woods failed to break par in a PGA Tour event for the first time in 11 years.

Nordegren completed her four-hour program through FloridaParentingClass.com on Aug. 16, the day after Woods tied for 28th in the PGA Championship at Whistling Straits. It was the first time in nearly seven years he had finished out of the top 20 in consecutive majors.

Documents also show that the children lived at their primary home at Isleworth until November 2009—the Woods car crash was Nov. 27—and that Nordegren had moved out to a nearby residence since then.

Woods is to play this week at The Barclays, his first tournament as a single man in nearly six years. He needs a good performance just to get out of the first round of the FedEx Cup playoffs, which he won the previous two times he played, and he also is trying to show he is worth picking for the Ryder Cup, where wives take on a visible role.

Since returning to golf at the Masters, Woods has not come close to winning a tournament. He tied for fourth in the Masters and in the U.S. Open, both times taking himself out of contention early in the final round.

One example of how the impending divorce has affected him came last month when he played in a charity pro-am in Ireland, which ended on Tuesday. Instead of staying overseas to practice on links courses, Woods flew home to Florida for six days to see his children and then returned to Scotland for the British Open.

Woods has won 82 times worldwide—36 times and six majors while married—in his professional career. His last victory came at the Australian Masters on Nov. 15, his last trip before his serial infidelity was uncovered.

just has to get going, that's all. It's time to stop all this and just go."

Haynesworth's teammates are looking forward to putting the dispute behind them.

"Sometimes there's frustration that takes place, but any time you have 80 players on the roster you're going to have little things come up," linebacker London Fletcher said. "Certain things should just stay in the locker room. Nowadays things get out."

Cornerback Carlos Rogers said players are more worried about their own jobs than Haynesworth's situation.

"I don't think it affects nobody in this locker room," Rogers said. "They worry about what they've got to do. That's been going on since the summer. We've really been going without him."

NBA BRIEFS

Kwame Brown, Michael Jordan reunited again

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Charlotte Bobcats owner Michael Jordan is bringing back what's considered his worst move as a basketball executive: Kwame Brown. The Bobcats on Monday agreed on a one-year deal with Brown for the veteran minimum of \$1.3 million. Agent Mark Bartelstein says Brown will sign on Tuesday. Jordan was running the Washington Wizards when he selected Brown straight out of high school with the No. 1 overall pick in the 2001 draft. The big man turned out to be a major disappointment. Jordan was later fired by the Wizards. He joined the Bobcats as a part owner in 2006, and bought the team outright this spring. Now Jordan hopes the 6-foot-11 Brown will add depth. He averaged 4.5 points and 3.5 rebounds with Detroit last season.

Spanish point guard Calderon out of worlds with leg injury

MADRID (AP)—Spain point guard Jose Manuel Calderon will miss the basketball world championships after hurting his leg in an exhibition against the United States. Tests Monday revealed the Toronto Raptors player tore a muscle in his left leg in Sunday's 86-85 loss. Calderon had headed to the locker room late in the game. He went scoreless with three assists. The Spanish federation says Calderon needs four weeks to recover. The 28-year-old was part of Spain's 2006 world champion team and won Olympic silver two years ago in Beijing. Calderon says "there is not much to say. It's a pity I was injured at the last minute."

Former NBA star Williams pleads guilty in DWI case

NEW YORK (AP) — A chastened Jayson Williams admitted Friday he was driving drunk when he slammed his SUV into a tree, capping years of legal and personal problems with a guilty plea that adds more time behind bars for the already imprisoned former NBA star. His voice sometimes unsteady, Williams apologized to his family and said he was working to rebuild his life as he pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated in the Jan. 5 crash. His one-year sentence—the maximum for the misdemeanor offense—will follow the five-year prison term he's serving in New Jersey for accidentally shooting and killing a limo driver. "It seems excessive, but it's a small price to pay if it helps to deter drunk driving," Williams, 42, said in a Manhattan court. "I'll be the poster child for that if it's going to save lives."

"I'm doing the best I can in New Jersey so this will never happen again," added Williams, dressed in a tan inmate uniform. He nodded to supporters, including his frail mother, before being led out of court. The former New Jersey Net was a top player with a six-year, \$86 million contract before a leg injury forced him to retire in 2000. A first-round NBA draft pick in 1990, he played nine seasons with the Philadelphia 76ers and the Nets. He averaged 10 or more rebounds a game in his final four NBA seasons and was named to an All-Star team.

Shanahan meets with Haynesworth, keeps it private



ASHBURN, Va. (AP)—Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan met with Albert Haynesworth on Monday and kept the conversation to himself, saying it's "completely ridiculous" to keep talking about it publicly.

"If you guys want to talk about football, we'll talk about football," Shanahan said. "But to keep on talking about things outside of football to me is completely ridiculous. I did have a conversation with him. If you want to talk about football, we'll talk about football."

So Shanahan gave no response to the strong words uttered by the disgruntled nose tackle following Saturday's loss to the Baltimore Ravens. Haynesworth accused the coach of mischaracterizing

the reason he missed practice last week and said he will stay away from the Redskins' offseason workout program again next year.

Reports say Haynesworth was suffering from a muscle condition called rhabdomyolysis, but Shanahan told AOL Fanhouse on Sunday that he was "not aware of that." Shanahan had given various reasons for Haynesworth's inability to practice, eventually attributing it to a headache.

Haynesworth did not talk to reporters Monday, but was back at practice for the first time in a week.

Shanahan has maintained that the two-time All-Pro tackle must practice regularly to play and work his way back to a starting role. He has made Haynesworth practice and play with the backups.

Haynesworth, who failed a conditioning test and missed the first nine days of training camp practice, said Saturday he shouldn't have been playing with the reserves during the Ravens game.

"We're going to practice him as much as we can and get him ready to play," Shanahan said Monday. "Hopefully he doesn't miss any practices, and when he plays he plays well."

Defensive coordinator Jim Haslett, who has worked closely with Haynesworth amid the player-head coach feud, said Haynesworth is "in the mix" to become a starter before the regular season opener Sept. 12.

"Obviously he's a good football player when he's in shape, healthy, ready to go," Haslett said. "We need to find that out here in the next three weeks. ... He

Rangers lose no-hitter in ninth



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Joe Mauer's clean single to center field with one out in the ninth inning broke up the no-hit bid of four Texas Rangers pitchers.

The Rangers beat the Minnesota Twins 4-0 on Monday night in the fifth no-hitter this season broken up in the ninth inning.

Starter Rich Harden was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day and went 6 2-3 innings before being lifted after throwing 111 pitches. Matt Harrison got the final out of the seventh. Darren O'Day pitched the eighth and All-Star closer Neftali Feliz got one out in the ninth before Mauer singled.

Texas prevailed in the matchup of division leaders but fell two outs shy of its first no-hitter since Kenny Rogers' perfect game against California on July 28, 1994.

There have been five no-hitters this season, including perfect games by Oakland's Dallas Braden and Philadelphia's Roy Halladay. The last no-hitter was Matt Garza of Tampa Bay against Detroit on July 26.

The home plate umpire Monday night was Jim Joyce. He was the first base umpire who made the incorrect call with two outs in the ninth inning that cost Detroit Armando Galarraga a perfect game.

Harden (5-4) struck out six and walked five, the last Michael Cuddyer and that brought manager Ron Washington to the mound for a lengthy discussion. It wasn't until Joyce came to the mound, where the entire Rangers infield was already patting Harden on the back, that the pitching change was made.

Day, a submarine-throwing right-hander, got a fortunate bounce off for an out when Delmon Young's leadoff grounder in the eighth ricocheted off first base. Rookie Mitch Moreland retrieved the ball and flipped to O'Day for the out.

Feliz had walked a batter in the ninth before Mauer broke up the no-hit bid.

Harden, who had been on the disabled list with shoulder tendinitis, walked the leadoff hitters in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, but his infield turned double plays in the fifth and sixth.

Harden's last major league start was Aug. 7 at Oakland, taking the loss while allowing three runs in 2 1-3 innings. Harden showed he was ready to be activated when he allowed one run and struck out 10 in a six-inning minor league rehab start for Triple-A Oklahoma City on Wednesday.

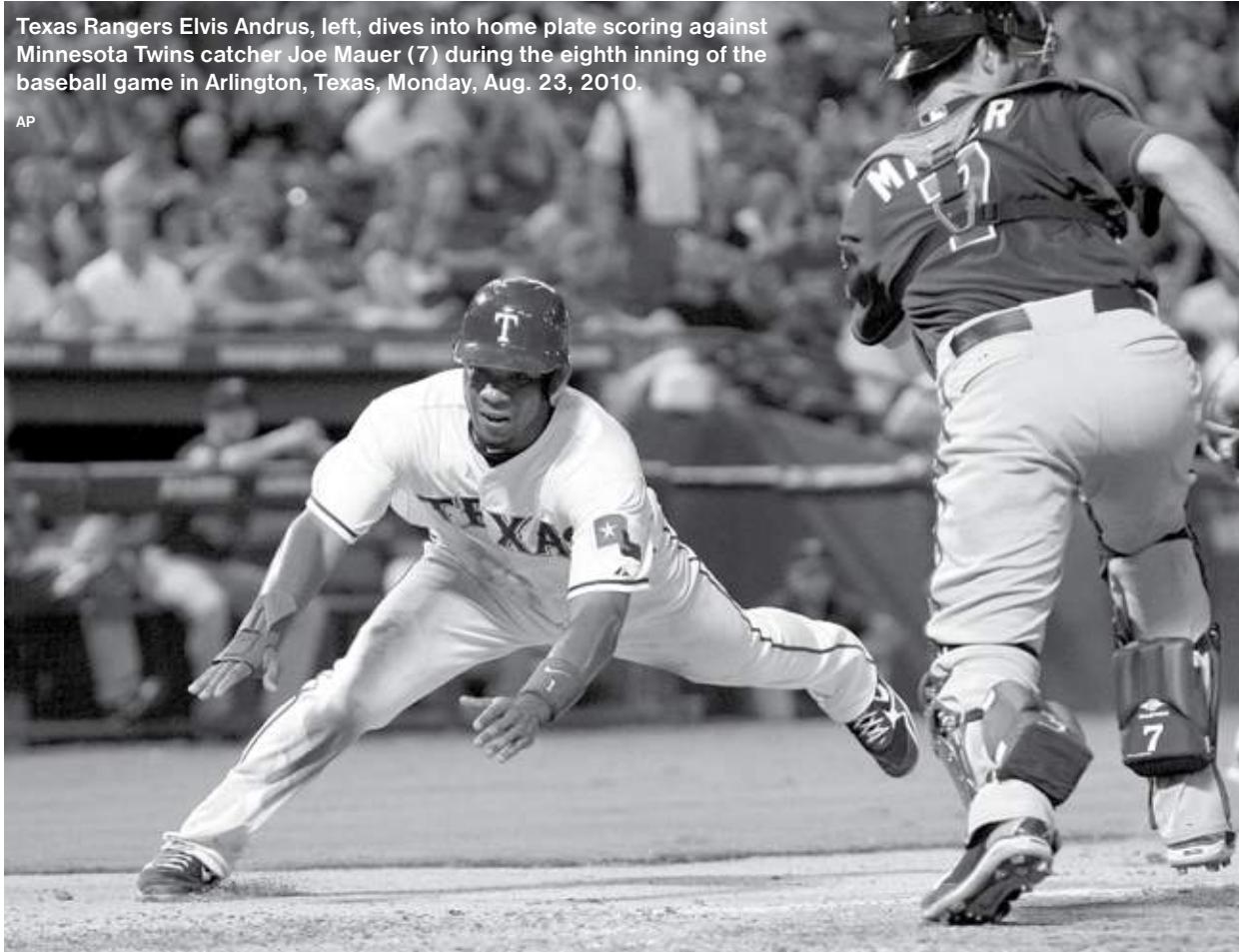
Harden has been mostly a disappointment for the Rangers after signing as a free agent last winter for a guaranteed \$7.5 million. That includes a \$1 million buyout if an \$11.5 million mutual option for next season isn't exercised.

Harden has been on the disabled list twice this season and nine times in six seasons. He missed six weeks earlier this year with a left gluteal muscle strain, then made only two starts after that before going on the DL again.

The Twins went through a similar situation to Harden's on Aug. 15, when Kevin Slowey was lifted after seven innings without allowing a hit. He was on a pitch count after missing a start with

Texas Rangers Elvis Andrus, left, dives into home plate scoring against Minnesota Twins catcher Joe Mauer (7) during the eighth inning of the baseball game in Arlington, Texas, Monday, Aug. 23, 2010.

AP



a sore right elbow. Reliever Jon Rauch gave up a hit with one out in the eighth.

David Murphy had a two-run triple in the first for the Rangers, who were returning from a 2-5 trip.

Rays 4, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, B.J. Upton homered on the first pitch of the game from former Tampa Bay teammate Scott Kazmir and doubled home another run to help the Rays move into a tie with the New York Yankees atop the American League East standings.

The Rays' win and New York's 3-2 loss at Toronto left the teams with identical 77-48 records, tied for best in the majors.

James Shields (12-11) allowed eight hits and three runs—two earned—in six-plus innings, struck out 10 and walked one in his 144th career start, tying Kazmir for most in club history.

Rafael Soriano struck out the side in the ninth to earn his 38th save in 40 chances.

Kazmir (8-11) gave up five hits and four runs in 5 1-3 innings, struck out four and walked four to fall to 1-6 in his last eight starts.

Blue Jays 3, Yankees 2

At Toronto, Jose Bautista hit a two-run homer, then added a tiebreaking solo drive in the eighth inning for his 40th of

the season, as Toronto beat New York.

It was the sixth multihomer game of 2010 for Bautista, who leads the majors in home runs.

Bautista connected off right-hander David Robertson (2-4) in the eighth.

Scott Downs (5-5) pitched one inning for the win and Kevin Gregg finished in the ninth for his 28th save in 32 chances.

Red Sox 6, Mariners 3

At Boston, Marco Scutaro's second two-run single gave Boston the lead for good and John Lackey pitched eight strong innings in a win over Seattle.

Adrian Beltre and J.D. Drew both had two singles for the Red Sox, who won their third straight after their most lopsided loss of the season last Friday.

Lackey (12-7) gave up three runs—two earned—and six hits, striking out 10 and walking two in his best start since he took a no-hitter into the eighth inning at Seattle on July 22.

Tigers 12, Royals 3

At Detroit, Ryan Raburn drove in three runs and scored twice to help Detroit continue a strong homestand with a win over Kansas City.

Jhonny Peralta and Brandon Inge also drove in three runs for the Tigers, who are 4-0 since returning home and have outscored the opposition 31-6.

Judge in Clemens case issues gag order

WASHINGTON (AP)—A judge assigned to Roger Clemens' perjury case issued a gag order Monday prohibiting public comments by the principles in the case that could affect the jury pool for a possible trial.

Clemens was indicted by a federal grand jury Thursday for allegedly lying to Congress. The six-count indictment accuses the seven-time Cy Young Award winner of obstructing a congressional inquiry with 15 different statements made under oath, including denials that

he had ever used steroids or human growth hormone.

Clemens has denied any wrongdoing.

U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton said in the gag order that interested participants will refrain from making public comments that could have a material effect on the case.

"Further action in violation of this admonition will be confronted of the full authority of the Court," Walton wrote in the order that covers "the parties, any potential witnesses, and counsel for those parties and witnesses."

ing run in the top of the eighth.

Huston Street got the final three outs for his 11th save in 15 chances.

Helton, who has started to break out of a season-long slump this month, hadn't had a four-hit game since July 16, 2009, against San Diego.

Cardinals 10, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh, Albert Pujols hit a three-run home run one pitch after injured Pittsburgh starter Ross Ohlendorf was pulled during a four-run St. Louis first inning, as the Cardinals moved to within a game of the National League wild card lead.

Kyle Lohse (2-5), making his second start since spending nearly three months on the disabled list with a right forearm injury, pitched five scoreless innings before giving up Garrett Jones' two-run homer in the sixth. Lohse was lifted one out later, but still won for the first time since May 17 against Washington.

Pujols had another big night, homering in his 10th game of the Cardinals' last 19 while adding a single and a double in five at-bats. Pujols has eight homers in 22 games against Pittsburgh since last season.

Astros 3, Phillies 2

At Philadelphia, Brett Myers threw seven sharp innings against his former team, Carlos Lee hit a go-ahead two-run single in the eighth as Houston beat Philadelphia.

The wild card-leading Phillies lost for just the sixth time in their last 30 home games.

Pitching in a steady drizzle, Myers (9-7) gave up two runs and nine hits, striking out nine. Myers has pitched at least six innings in each of his 26 starts, tying Larry Dierker's franchise record. It's the longest streak to start a season since Curt Schilling had 35 straight in 2002.

Giants 11, Reds 2

At San Francisco, Matt Cain ended a three-start winless stretch and Andres Torres hit a two-run homer as the San Francisco beat Cincinnati.

Aubrey Huff added a solo homer leading off the eighth. Huff, Pat Burrell and Freddy Sanchez all doubled in runs in the Giants' five-run first inning to knock Edinson Volquez (3-2) out after 2-3 of an inning for the shortest start of his career. Sanchez finished with a season-high four hits.

Rockies 5, Braves 4

At Denver, Todd Helton's first four-hit game in more than a year included the tiebreaking RBI single off Jonny Venters in the eighth inning that lifted Colorado to a win over Atlanta.

Helton singled over second base to score Carlos Gonzalez from second and make a winner of reliever Rafael Betancourt (4-1), who gave up the

Cain (10-10) retired the final 14 batters he faced and struck out the side in order in the seventh. He allowed two runs on five hits in eight innings, struck out seven and walked one.

Walton has some experience with high-profile cases, presiding over the perjury and obstruction trial of Vice President Dick Cheney's former chief of staff, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

No date has been set for Clemens' initial court appearance. The former pitcher faces a combined maximum sentence of 30 years in prison and a \$1.5 million fine if convicted on all charges. However, under U.S. sentencing guidelines, he probably would face no more than 15 to 21 months in prison.



AP
This Jan. 7, 2008, file photo shows Roger Clemens listening as his attorney, Rusty Hardin, not shown, speaks during a news conference, in Houston.

CNMI Nationals sweep regular season

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Bud Light CNMI Nationals recorded a sweep without even having to sweat in their final game in regular season of the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Nationals were scheduled to face the O'Doul's Runnin' Rebels in a make-up game, but the latter did not have enough players for the match, giving the former the victory by forfeit. The Nationals completed the regular season with a perfect 8-0 record, putting them in the No. 1 spot in the nine-team league and giving the team a bye in the first round of the playoffs.

The Runnin' Rebels finished the round-robin regular season with only one win in eight games, bringing them down to the last spot in the team standings.

The first make-up game of the

The Bud Light CNMI Nationals' Tim Quan, center, prepares to battle two Budweiser Saints players for the rebound during their game in the Budweiser caging last month at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The Saints and Nationals won the final two games in the regular season last Monday night via forfeits.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



night between the Budweiser Saints and Michelob Ultra Sixers also resulted to a forfeit with the former winning the match after a no-show from the latter.

The Saints and Sixers tied the Bud Ice Rollers for the sixth to eighth spots in the team standings, as all three teams had identical 2-5 records.

Budweiser caging organizers still have to find ways to break the tie and determine the final placing of the three tied teams. Pending the resolution in break-

ing the deadlock, the playoff round will be put on hold.

In the first round of the double-elimination playoffs, the last-ranked Runnin' Rebels will play the No. 8 seed team with the winner meeting the pennant

champions Nationals in the second round.

Other first round pairings are Hoegaarden IT&E vs. Bud Lime Ol'Aces; Bacardi Hi-Five vs. the No. 6 team, and Becks Sixsevenoh vs. the No. 7 squad.

Hoegaarden IT&E placed second in the regular season with its 7-1 record, absorbing its lone loss in the league at the hands of the Nationals. Bacardi Hi-5 and Becks Sixsevenoh had similar 5-3 records, but the former won the tiebreak and the No. 3 spot, as it beat the latter in their only meeting in the regular season.

This year's Budweiser caging took a long break to give way to the CNMI Nationals' bid in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau. When the league resumed last Friday, only one of the four make-up games was played with the Bud Ice Rollers beating the Runnin' Rebels, 90-78.

League organizers are advising coaches and players to wait for further announcement regarding the start of the playoffs.

For more information, contact Elias Rangamar at eli_rang@yahoo.com or Abner Venus at bulik29@yahoo.com.

Miller Lite knockout game postponed



Due to the recent rainy weather, the Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League semifinal game between Grillin' and Sat-bahi has been postponed and is

scheduled to take place at 7pm tonight, weather permitting.

The winner of this contest determines who will challenge Wings Travel, the first finalist, in Saturday night's championship match at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Tournament officials are hoping to conduct the game tonight, but in theory, they have until Friday to find out what the finals matchup is going to be.

Additionally, after Saturday's championship, the

tournament organizers will hold an awards and trophies presentation but the championship game itself is also subject to a rainout if the soggy weather continues through the weekend. (Walter Sutherland)

the PIC general manager said.

Guam will also be represented in the Hell of Marianas and will send more entries than last year, as Saipan's neighbor is already done with its training. Joining Guam and other off-island riders are the

growing groups of bikers from Saipan, led by Carey and Lewie Tenorio.

For more information about Hell of Marianas, contact PIC at 237-5148 or email at seaexec@picsaipan.com or dosm@pic-saipan.com.

BIGGER

From Page 28

cycling team should come again like last year. I have left the rest of Japan up to contacts I have made through cycling groups, but

my MTB friend in Japan said he may bring some members of the national team to ride road bikes and escape the cold winter training there. However it may become a problem for Japan cyclists to come as Delta charges a lot for bikes as extra luggage."

nament in Joint Base, Balad, in Iraq, last May.

He has not been back on island since November 2009 when he won his middleweight belt in Gorilla Warfare's The Confrontation.

After his CNMI appearance, Manglona plans on returning to Las Vegas to work on his ground game and hopes to graduate to purple belt in the nationally ranked annual North American Grappling Association West Coast Grappling Championship at the Las Vegas Sports Center on Sept. 11.

He has also already made plans to spend a few weeks with fellow Marianas MMA fighter Frank "The Crank Camacho for taking me under his wing from Day 1. I would also like to send out a special thanks to my 10th grade social studies teacher, Mark B. Mendiola, for being an important mentor to me back in my days at Tinian High School. All of the support I have received from everyone keep me going," said Manglona.

Manglona said he used to get in a lot of fights back in his adolescent days before Mendiola sat him down and mentored him to get his head on straight.

regular season defeated the Beach Boys, overcoming the latter's twice-to-beat advantage in the finals.

DCCA won Game 1 easily, 28-5. In Game 2, Julian Camacho homered in his first three trips at bat and finished 4-for-4 at the plate to lift DCCA to a title-clinching 16-11 triumph. He added six RBIs and scored four runs in the deciding Game 2 to take the Finals MVP award.

In the women's division, Northern Marianas College won the finals, downing Finance in Games 1, 14-0, and 2, 25-10. This season, organizers have yet to confirm if there will be a separate competition for women's teams.

For more information about the Inter-Government/Business Softball League, contact Jojo Attao, Mario Sablan, or Chris Camacho at 664-2502 or 664-2503.

GOVT-BUSINESS

From Page 28

Gavels.

Each team will play in a round-robin regular season against squads in their respective pool. Format for the playoffs has yet to be decided. Games will be played every Tuesday and Thursday with three matches in each playing

ANGELES

From Page 28

Omechelang pocketed \$60 and the aforementioned lunch buffet gift certificate, while Cal received \$25. Sol and Villavicencio came away with \$10 apiece.

Three in a row for Aldan

In the Fiji Water Prince/Princess of the Lanes, M.J. Aldan completed a hat trick after dominating the August roll-off with 641 pinfalls.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	77	48	.616	-
Tampa Bay	77	48	.616	-
Boston	72	54	.571	5 1/2
Toronto	65	59	.524	11 1/2
Baltimore	44	81	.352	33

Central Division

Minnesota	72	53	.576	-
Chicago	67	57	.540	4 1/2
Detroit	62	63	.496	10
Kansas City	53	72	.424	19
Cleveland	50	74	.403	21 1/2

West Division

Texas	70	54	.565	-
Oakland	61	62	.496	8 1/2
Los Angeles	62	64	.492	9
Seattle	49	76	.392	21 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	73	52	.584	-
Philadelphia	70	54	.565	2 1/2
Florida	62	61	.504	10
New York	62	62	.500	10 1/2
Washington	53	72	.424	20

Central Division

Cincinnati	72	53	.576	-
St. Louis	68	54	.557	2 1/2
Milwaukee	59	65	.476	12 1/2
Houston	55	69	.444	16 1/2
Chicago	52	74	.413	20 1/2
Pittsburgh	41	84	.328	31

West Division

San Diego	74	49	.602	-
San Francisco	70	56	.556	5 1/2

His total was 77 pins more than runner-up Marion McKenzie's 564 and 245 more than third place Marcel McKenzie's 364.

Aldan, who also reigned supreme in June and July, rolled a four-game series of 191, 149, 165, and 136. He won \$20, while the two McKenzie's got \$10 and \$5.

The King, Queen, and Prince/Princess of the Lanes is sponsored by MARPAC and organized by the Saipan Bowling Association.

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER CAGE STANDINGS (FINAL)

CNMI Nationals 8 0

Hoegaarden IT&E 7 1

Bacardi Hi-5 5 3

Becks Sixsevenoh 5 3

Ol'Aces 4 4

Michelob Sixers 2 6

Bud Ice Rollers 2 6

Budweiser Saints 2 6

Runnin' Rebels 1 7

EMON LODGE STANDINGS

Mobil 7 0

Armatech 6 1

Marianas Wireless 5 2

MBI-Right Guard 4 3

Kagman Sparks 4 3

Ochie's 4 3

Wings Travel 2 5

Joeten Superstore 2 5

Marianas Resort 1 6

Tropical Laundry 0 7

Marianas Wireless hands Armatech first loss

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 Marianas Wireless snapped Armatech's winning run in the Emon Lodge 179 Freemasonry Inter-Color Basketball League, following a close 72-71 win in their game last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Banjo Basila split his charities in the last 1.5 seconds of the fourth quarter to lift Marianas Wireless to its fifth win in seven games and hand Armatech its first loss, also after seven matches.

Basila trooped to the stripe af-

ter Peter Mendiola fumbled on Armatech's last offensive play. Basila then picked up the loose ball and Junar Guiab was forced to give up a preemptive foul, as Marianas Wireless was headed for a fastbreak play.

At the foul line, Basila canned his first charity and intentionally missed the second one. After the miss, neither team had clear possession in the rebound play and time expired, preserving Marianas Wireless' one-point win.

Basila and Wowie Abuel top-scored for Marianas Wireless with 18 points each. Bon Tamayo chipped in 13, while Kae Bernardo added 11.

Elmer Esdrelon paced Armatech with 13 markers, Brendon Talania and Mel Capalad contributed 12 apiece, and Mendiola had 11 points.

Marianas Wireless took an early double-digit lead at the end of the first period, 18-7, as Armatech was too sluggish on offense.

However, Armatech bounced back in the second canto, outgunning Marianas Wireless, 22-12, to move within one at the break, 29-30.

Marianas Wireless hung on to the driver's seat after the third period, 51-47, as Abuel, after being held to a field goal in the first half, canned eight points in

that canto.

The fourth quarter was then a neck-and-neck battle and game was decided in the closing seconds with Basila making an important free throw to end Armatech's six-game winning streak.

Sparks 100, Wings Travel 58

In the last game of the day, the younger Sparks outran and outgunned Wings Travel, 100-58.

The Sparks got off to a rousing start, leading 12-0, and never looked back to improve to a 4-3 record in the 10-team field. Wings Travel absorbed its fifth loss in seven games.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Kagman Sparks' Jon Norita, right, fakes off the defense of Wings Travel's Ed Yalung during their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

FIVB workshop for PE teachers set

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 The Northern Marianas Islands Volleyball Association will be hosting an FIVB Volleyball Cooperation Program Teacher's Training Course from Sept. 14 to 19.

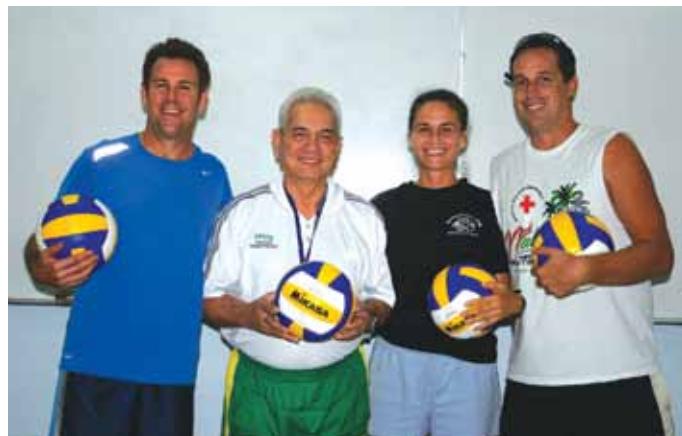
NMIVA said the teachers' training course's main goal is to motivate physical education instructors in the CNMI to teach volleyball and to improve their way of teaching the sport.

The organization is inviting PE teachers in primary and secondary schools to attend the course and emphasized that no prior experience in the sport of volleyball is necessary to attend the FIVB workshop.

NMIVA will be contacting the Public School System and the Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association to encourage administrative support for teachers to attend and receive professional development credit.

Slots for the FIVB workshop are available for up to 30 participants and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed applications will serve as a confirmed reservation.

NMIVA said applications may be obtained by emailing the participants' request to nmivolleyball@gmail.com. Completed applications may be submitted electronically via email



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

FIVB veteran coach Tomas Santamaria, second from left, poses with NMIVA officials, from left, Russ Quinn, Laurie Peterka, and Mark McDonald during a Level I Coaching Course at the Marianas High School Gymnasium in August 2008.

to nmivolleyball@gmail.com or by hand delivery to Gabriel C. White at the Law Offices of Michael White on the second floor of the Joeten Building in Susupe (above Ebisuya). The deadline for submitting applications is 5:30pm on Sept. 10.

A 100 percent refundable deposit of \$100 per person is due at registration. A 50 percent refund will be issued to those who accomplish 100 percent attendance with the additional 50 percent refund to be issued to those who pass the final exam and receive their certificates.

"Simply, show up on time for each session and pass the exam to receive a 100 percent refund for you or your school. Alternatively, you may opt to donate your refund to NMIVA's pro-

gram development projects," said NMIVA.

Application fees must be paid at registration on Sept. 14—no exceptions. NMIVA will accept cash or check(s) made out to NMIVA. Credit cards or purchase orders will not be accepted.

COPSSA refresher referees clinic

NMIVA has also scheduled a brief refresher referees clinic for COPSSA member schools at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium at 3pm on Aug. 27.

COPSSA member schools are expecting regular season games to run between now and the middle of October with playoffs at the end of October.

A coaches meeting was actually held last Aug. 21, which de-

termined that the season would consist of 1-2 co-ed, mixed grade level teams from each school. For more information about COPSSA, contact Scott Norman at scotleenorman@gmail.com.

MISO volleyball set

NMIVA also announced that the Marianas Intramural Schools Organization's boys varsity volleyball league begins next month.

NMIVA said the public school fall season opens Sept. 7 with boys varsity running from September to November. Any school (public or private) wishing to participate in the competition should contact Nick Gross at nickgross07@gmail.com.

NMIVA is the CNMI's umbrella volleyball association covering all aspects of indoor and outdoor games and players.

NMIVA is a bona fide current member of FIVB and the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association. All of the organization's fundraisers put money into the development of volleyball in the CNMI.

NMIVA is encouraging volleyball enthusiasts to become a member today for a mere \$20 a year. Members get email updates and discounts on all NMIVA-sanctioned volleyball events throughout the year.

For more information, contact the NMIVA at 483-7499 or email nmivolleyball@gmail.com.

Chagi Fan, Sabalu, Slow Hand win Kingfisher pairings

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 Chagi Fan defeated the Black Pearls in a showdown between the two Buddies Bar and Grill teams, home team Sabalu from Charlie's Bar beat D'Pirates Bar and Grill's Sang and the Gang, and USS Peleliu Club's Slow Hand edged out DPSB's Lucky Shots on the road in last Wednesday's Saipan Electronic Dart Association's Kingfisher

Division matchups.

Chagi Fan sits alone in first place of the division with a 29-16 win-loss record, while there is a three-way tie for second place.

The Black Pearls, Sabalu, and Sang and the Gang are all knotted up at 23-22. Slow hand (19-26) and the Lucky Shots (18-27) are trailing not too far behind.

Chagi Fan 10, Black Pearls 5

Visiting Chagi Fan and the Black Pearls each took two Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games to

start the match. Chagi Fan's Jesse Borja and Jon Jon San Nicolas won their games, while David Terlaje and Diony Camacho of the Black Pearls won out to keep the score even at 2-2.

The score remained tied at 4-4 after both teams took a game of Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket and Partners 501 Double In/Double Out.

The tide turned when Borja, San Nicolas, Augustin Hocog, and Ken Villagomez of Chagi Fan swept all four Singles Regular Cricket matches. Then Chagi Fan also won both Partners

Baseball Games.

The Black Pearls finished strong by taking the last Team 1001 Double In/Double Out game, but still came up short in the matchup.

Sabalu 10, Sang and the Gang 5

Playing on their home turf at Charlie's Bar, Sabalu won their match in dominating fashion against DPBG's Sang and the Gang, 10-5. Sabalu's Everette and Ray Indalecio, Ray Anthony Aguon, and Rodney Aguon swept all

four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out matches to give their team a perfect start. Then Sabalu won both pairs of Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket and Partners 501 Double In/Double Out games to stretch their streak to eight wins in a row and an automatic win.

Even though they already won, Sabalu added two more Singles Regular Cricket victories for good measure before giving Sang and the Gang some charity matches to help pad their opponent's overall league standings.

Slow Hand 8, Lucky Shots 7

In the third match-up, visiting USSP's Slow Hand soundly defeated the DPBG's Lucky Shots as this match-up was over before the Partners Baseball Games took place. Slow Hand knocked off the Lucky Shots by sweeping the Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket and Partners 501 Double In/Double Out categories. Both teams split a couple of Singles 301 Double In/Double Out and Singles Regular Cricket matches and since Slow Hand already won eight games going into the last three matches, the Partners Baseball and Team 1001 Double In/Double Out games were irrelevant.



Bigger, tougher race seen in Hell of Marianas



Russia's Alexandre Bagenov (107) leads the main peloton up to San Vicente village during last year's Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With Russian pros returning this year, and several Japanese and Korean riders confirming their attendance, organizers of the 4th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race are expecting a bigger and tougher competition in the Dec. 4 event.

"This year's race has the potential to be bigger. I have the same Russian guys 95 percent locked in and they will bring a guy that does MTB tricks. He is a professional MTB rider that does exhibition in Rus-

sia," said Kieran Daly, general manager of Pacific Islands Club, which is organizing the annual 100-kilometer race.

The returnees from Russia are Alexandre Bagenov and Eugeniy Smarchkov, who had a 1-2 finish in last year's race. Bagenov, a Tour de France veteran who used to race for Italy's cycling team Domoni Vacanze, completed "Hell" in three hours, three minutes and 25.88 seconds, just less than two minutes behind the race record of 3:02.22.62 made by Saipan's Eli Torgeson in 2008. Smarchkov timed in at 3:03.26 to finish second and beat Ko-

Daly said another Russian cycling team is coming over and will field one female member in the caliber of 2009 champion Amber Halliday. Halliday, who represented Australia in rowing competitions both in the World Championships and Olympics, clocked in at 3:13:20 in last year's race, defeating home favorite and 2008 champion Mieko Carey (3:20:15) and Guam's Chiyo Lombard (3:22:24).

Daly said Halliday showed interest in defending her title, but has yet to confirm a return trip to Saipan.

"I cannot lock Amber in yet, as she is still racing in Europe and she told me yesterday it [Hell of Marianas] is in her race diary, but cannot confirm until the team she is racing with announces their off season training camps," Daly said.

Besides the Russians, Daly added they are expecting the same Korean riders to return to Saipan and join some members of Japan's national team.

"A friend from Japan, a national MTB coach, and Japan's current national MTB champion will also ride. The Top 3 from a road race in Korea (male and female) and another Korean

See BIGGER on Page 26

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Keli "Rukiz" Manglona is back on Saipan and is raring to defend his Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts middleweight championship belt against Guamanian Cody Cruz of Guam's Guahan Top Team.

The Manglona-Cruz title bout will serve as the main event of Gorilla Warfare MMA's "Armageddon" set this Saturday at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

As far as his opponent goes, Manglona admits he does not know much about him other than that he is also 20 years old like him and holds an MMA win-loss record 3-0.

"Originally, I came into this training for [Guam's Guahan Top Team's] Ryan Biglar, who is considered Guam's top pound-for-pound

fighter in the welterweight or middleweight divisions. [Biglar] pulled out recently for personal reasons, but I don't take any of my matches or competitions lightly. I will come ready for war...and hope [Cruz] does the same," said Manglona.

Manglona was born on Saipan, but raised on Timian and has been stateside for the past two years training in Las Vegas with the Wand Fight Team headed by MMA legend, Vanderlay Silva, and with Legion Jiu Jitsu under head instructor Cameron Diffley.

In the cage, Manglona utilizes Muai Thai and American boxing and wrestling techniques. He also holds a blue belt in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Nicknamed Rukiz, which stands for The Ruckus, Manglona is looking to win seven in a row and keep his undefeated MMA streak alive.

Impressively, the young 5'11"

See RUKIZ on Page 26

Angeles wins for 1st time; Omechelang gets second



Angeles



Omechelang



Aldan

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Raymond Angeles won his first King of the Lanes title of the year, while Gloria Omechelang collected her second tiara as the August Budweiser King and Queen of the Lanes Tenpin Bowling Tournament rolled off Sunday and Monday at the Capital Bowling Center.

Angeles, the King of the Lanes champion in 2008, nipped Richard Leong for the monthly men's title, 808-803.



The Mt. Carmel High School alumnus rolled three average games after knocking down 171 in the first game and 188 and 170 in the third and fourth last Monday.

Angeles, however, turned in a tourney high 279 in the second game to finish with a 202 pinfall average.

Leong, for his part, mirrored Angeles by rolling a 174, 255,

190, and 184 in his four-game series Monday.

Simon Manacop wound up third with his 769 built around throws of 223, 158, 185, and 203.

Angeles earned \$70 and a lunch buffet gift certificate from Saipan Grand Hotel for his August win, while Leong and Manacop took home \$30 and \$20, respectively.

In the Queen of the Lanes, Omechelang added the August title to her March win after knocking down 665 pinfalls on Sunday.

Omechelang rolled identical 153s in the first two games before calling it a night with a 177 and 182 in the third and fourth games.

Trailing by 25 pins was runner-up Ron Cal who totaled 640 (175, 167, 138, and 160), while Elena Sol and Yho Villavicencio finished tied in third place with a similar score of 622.

See ANGELES on Page 26

Govt-business softball league draws 19 teams

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roelyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Nineteen teams will battle for the championship in the 2010 Inter-Government/Business Slow-pitch Softball League that will be played at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Leading the list is four-time champion Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, which is bracketed in Pool B along with Division of Environmental Quality, Department of Public Works, Procurement and Supply, Commonwealth Utilities Corp.-Water, Freedom Air Fliers, Commerce, Sert, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Marianas Resort. Pool A is composed of D&Q Spam, Managaha, Team CUC, Beach Boys, Docomo, Public School System, Department of Public Health, Joeten Superstores, and See GOVT-BUSINESS on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Mel Sakisat, seen here pitching in a local tournament early this year, played for DCCA last year and helped the team notch its fourth straight championship in the inter-government/business softball league. DCCA will defend its title this season against 18 other teams.



Manglona